LABOR CHALLENGE – 1947– articles by Ross Dowson (pseudonyms: Paul Kane, Jean La Plante) and editorial articles

01_15th-1a **Vol. 3 No. 1 (30)** 3,201 votes won by RWP Candidate; (Murray) Dowson polls 3% of Toronto vote; CCF silent, LPP supports Tory Mayor

01_15th-1b (continuation) LPP failed to answer red-baiters

01_15th-2 Financial drive goes over top; Workers back **Labor Challenge**

02_01st-1 **(31)** A lesson on revolutionary potential of the workers, by Ross Dowson

02_01st-2 January 'Fourth International' reports American Trotskyist 12th Convention; RWP condemns French raid on worker's rally (in Indochina)

02_01st-3 Manager's column (sub drive)

02_15th-1a **(32)** Bolivians elect four Trotskyists on Workers' United Front slate (special)

02_15th-1b (continuation) Some victories; Trotskyist seized in Burma raid

02_15th-2 Trotskyist program is sole realistic one for workers, by Ross Dowson

02_15th-3 SWP demands end to French war in Indo-China (special)

03_01st-1 **(33**) Unity in struggle, by Ross Dowson (United Front vs. Peoples' Front)

03_01st-2 Revolutionists active in Burma (special report on Trotskyists' analysis)

03_01st-3 Pickets hit discrimination at Toronto rink (Jews and Negroes barred)

03_15th-1a **(34)** 10% rent-hike still threat, Gov't admits, by Paul Kane

03_15th-1b (continuation) Parliament debate shows

03_15th-2 The Stalinist bureaucracy and the defense of (the) USSR, by Ross Dowson; Red-baiting marks Cartier campaign for Fred Rose seat (imprisoned Stalinist ex-MP), by Jean La Plante

03_15th-3 10,000 at rally of Ceylon Trotskyists; Ceylon Trotskyist party runs slate in general election (special reports)

04_01st-1 **(35)** Vicious anti-labor bill of Duplessis government would cripple trade unions in Quebec province, by Jean LaPlante

04_15th-1 **(36)** Anti-labor bill passes in B.C.; Provinces backing up dominion drive to outlaw strikes, hamstring unions, by R. Bullock (special to L.C.)

04_15th-2 1250 new readers in 3 months is goal in **Labor Challenge** drive

04_15th-3 U.S. Trotskyists publish statement on unification (from **The Militant**)

04_15th-4 Withdraw the troops (from Austria & Germany) ! Manifesto of the Austrian Trotskyists

04_15th-5 How Sullivans are made, by Ross Dowson (Seamen's union leader sells out and red-baits Stalinists.

05_01st-1a **(37)** Manifesto of RWP: Only road for labor on May Day, 1947; War danger is real!

05_01st-1b (continuation) Only road for labor

05_01st-2 “Free Trotskyist!” say 1000,000 Indian strikers (president of Madras Labor Union; article from Ceylon)

05_01st-3 (Prime Minister) King leads Dominion drive against unions, by Ross Dowson

05_01st-4 14th B.C. CCF convention shows leaders’ opportunism, by Paul Kane

05_15th-1 **(38)** Anti-labor drive mounting as bill goes before House; Cabinet okays substitute for P.C.1003, imposing arbitration, fines for unions, by P.I Kane

05_15th-2 Stalinist goons attack distributors of ‘Labor Challenge’ in Vancouver parade

05_15th-3 Sub drive wins 334 new readers in first 3 weeks

06_01st-1a **(39)** CCL committee fails to coordinate new wage drive, by Ross Dowson

06_01st-1b (continuation) (Labor congress) fails to unify drive for increases

06_01st-2a Ottawa sends anti-union bill to committee, by Paul Kane

06_01st-2b (continuation) Govt’s union-busting bill; Quebec unions hit MP’s importation of ‘slave laborers’

06_01st-3 RWP protests arrest of union leaders in India

06_01st-4 4th International calls for aid to German workers (Germany carved up into four occupation zones)

06_01st-5 463 new subs are chalked up in first 5 weeks of campaign

06_15th-1a **(40)** New status a trap for India; Labor party partition offer will bring new antagonisms, economic chaos, by Ross Dowson; Greek revolutionists face death penalty (Trotskyists)

06_15th-1b (continuations) Dominion status for Indian people; Labor presses demands for new wage; Labor presses demands for new wage increases, by Paul Kane

06_15th-2 Fourth International has heroic record in China

06_15th-3 “Labor Challenge” sub-getters pass half-way mark in campaign

07_01st-1 **(41)** U.S. unions defy anti-labor law; Miners, Omaha packing workers strike as Taft-Hartley slave labor bill passes, by Paul Kane

07_01st-2 (Government) Reign of terror rages in Egypt (special)

07_01st-3 New subs set record as campaign hits 9 weeks

08_01st-1 **(42)** RWP barred at (federal) labor bill (338) hearings

08_01st-2 Strikes and demonstrations rock the Italian government, by Paul Kane

08_01st-3 Trotskyists urge (U.S.)labor party as answer to Taft-Hartley Law

08_01st-4 Over top with 1267 subs in **Labor Challenge** drive

08_15th-1a **(43)** CCF's record in Saskatchewan – A warning, by Paul Kane

08_15th-1b (continuation) CCF's record is a warning to workers

08_15th-2 Canada signs pact with Greece as terror mounts, by Joe Rose

08_15th-3 French Trotskyist youth group appeals to expelled socialists, by Murray Dowson; Bolivian Trotskyists (International Comment)

08_15th-4 Our program (the RWP)

09_01st-1 **(44)** Drive launched to raise $1750 for **Labor Challenge**

09_01st-2 Indo-China revolutionists examine lessons of struggle (special) (Trotskyists hold congress on 2nd anniversary of Vietnamese Revolution of 1945)

09_01st-3 German convention founds a new Trotskyist section

09_01st-4a The heritage of Leon Trotsky; excerpts from memorial address by Ross Dowson, RWP National Secretary

09_01st-1b (continuation) Revolutionary youth; Trotsky's idea

09_01st-1c (continuation) A party is needed

09_15th-1 **(45)** Dollar crisis threatens Canada, by Ross Dowson

09_15th-2 The union leaders and labor's needs (Part 1 of 2), by Paul Kane; (Trotskyist) Manifesto gives program for Spanish workers

09_15th-3 Trotsky speech featured at two memorial meetings; U.S. Trotskyists plan presidential campaign for '48; (Spanish F.I.) Manifesto

09_15th-4 Toronto pledges $875 in **Labor Challenge** drive

10_01st-1 **(46)** (Editorial) B.C. labor can smash Bill 39 by 242-hour general strike; Time for action

10_01st-2 The union leaders and labor's needs (Part 2), by Paul Kane

10_01st-3 (Subscriptions) Manager's column

10_15th-1a **(47)** Ceylon Trotskyists win seats in New Parliament (special)

10_15th-1b (continuation) Ceylon Trotskyists

10_15th-2 TLC, CCL conventions in grip of bureaucrats, by Ross Dowson

10_15th-3 RWP was founded one year ago as section of 4th International

10_15th-4 "Protest our exile!" Greek prisoners plead (includes Trotskyists)

10_15th-5 Branches step up drive for **Labor Challenge** fund; RWP in action: Vancouver leaflets urge 24-hr.(general) strike (against Bill 39)

11_01st-1a **(48)** (Editorials) Road of October is still the way for all workers

11_01st-1b (continuation) Colonies on (the) march

11_01st-2 Belgrade Bureau exposed as fraud; Manifesto of the 4th International

11_01st-3 (Stalinist) **Pacific Tribune** smears RWP for 24-hour strike call in B.C.

11_01st-4 Govt. spreads terror against Bolivian workers (Trotskyist OBR targeted)

11_01st-5 Message to **Labor Challenge** readers, by Paul Kane (sub drive)

11_15th-1 **(49)** World crisis faces Canada; Dollar shortage acute, by Ross Dowson

11_15th-2 In Memory of our fighting leader; (Obituary): Jack MacDonald

12_01st-1a **(50)** RWP enters Toronto elections; Names Ross Dowson for Mayor and Harry Clairmont for Controller

12_01st-1b (continuation) Photo: RWP candidate Clairmont

12_01st-2 Campaign fund hits $1561 as drive draws to close; Boosting the 'Challenge'

12_15th-1a **(51)** RWP on Toronto ballot for May, Controller; Trotskyist candidates' city election platform; Elect Trotskyist to Ceylon Senate

12_15th-1b (continuation) For working class political action, Consumers' control of prices

12_15th-1c (continuation) RWP issues program to Toronto workers

12_15th-2 4th International hits dismantling German plants; Manifesto of 4th International Secretariat

04_01-1 **(35)** Vicious anti-labor bill of Duplessis government would cripple trade unions in Quebec province, by Jean LaPlante

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The Franco Regime and UNO
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WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Vol. III., No. 1 (30) TORONTO, MID-JANUARY, 1947 PRICE: 5 Cents

3,201 VOTES WON BY RWP CANDIDATE

New Year Opens With More Price Boosts

Tea, Coffee, Pork Rise, Slashes Real Wages

The new year opened with new price rises in basic necessities continuing to slash the standard of living of the working people.

Ottawa announced the removal of subsidies on tea and coffee which shot prices up 10 and four cents a pound respectively for these two items. Just previously, ostensibly to increase hog raising, a 15 per cent raise in export prices for pork products was granted the packing monopolists. This is expected to result in pork selling in Canada for approximately eight cents a pound more in the immediate future.

A CLUE TO THE CAUSE

A clue to what caused these increases in food prices was given by Agriculture Minister Gardiner in a statement on January 3. He pointed out that 56.4 million pounds of butter were being held in storage while producers were pressing for price increases. A federal subsidy on butter fat will probably be removed at the end of April which will result in an increase of about eight and a half cents a pound at that time. In an attempt to cover up the complicity of the government in the Big Business profit-hogs' plot to hold back commodities for higher prices, Gardiner threatened to import butter. He made no statement about where he would get this butter in a world crying for fats of all kinds.

Striking at the possibility of even the highest paid skilled workers owning a new car in postwar Canada, automobile manufacturers were recently granted a 10 per cent increase for passenger cars. The picture, painted by capitalist propagandists, of the average Canadian family enjoying a rising standard of living, taking the kids to the country on week-ends in the new car, etc., rapidly fades away as prices zoom skyward and the monopolists wax ever richer.

WAGE RAISES WIPED OUT

The wage gains won by the organized workers in the strikes of last Summer have already disappeared as the myth of price cal

B.C. Boilermakers Fight Attempt To Undermine Union

By R. BULLOCK

VANCOUVER. — Last July the Marine Workers & Boilermakers Industrial Union (CCL) brought matters to a head with regard to wage increases in west coast shipyards by setting a strike deadline if the operators didn't begin talk

KREMLIN'S PILLAGE OF EUROPE TURNS WORKERS AGAINST USSR

By PAUL MARTIN

According to the terms of the recently concluded "peace treaty" with Italy, the Soviet Union is to get $100,000,000 in reparations from Italy. In addition, the Kremlin is demanding $300,000,000 each from Romania and Finland and $200,000,000 from Hungary. Reparation demands from Germany, Austria and others have not yet been stated.

This colossal sum, amounting to $900,000,000 so far, will be squeezed

M. Dowson Polls 3% of Toronto Vote CCF Silent, LPP Supports Tory Mayor

SPECIAL TO LABOR CHALLENGE

TORONTO, Jan. 2.—Some 3,201 workers went to the polls here yesterday to vote for Murray Dowson, candidate of the Revolutionary Workers Party, for mayor of Toronto. The RWP in its first election campaign rolled up three per cent of the total vote cast by the electorate which is restricted by the reactionary Ontario Municipal Act to owners or tenants of property assessed at over $400. This conscious vote for the program of the Canadian section of the Fourth International was won in the face of the biggest red-baiting campaign ever conducted by Bay Street and its political stooges.

The Tory Saunders, with the backing of Conservative, Liberal and Stalinist machines, was re-elected mayor with some 93,000 votes. The straight anti-administration vote went to the other capitalist candidate for mayor, O'Hearn, a retired stockbroker and monetary reformer who spent thousands of dollars on leaflets, newspaper ads, billboards and radio time but received only 9,402 votes.

ONLY RWP PRESENTED WORKERS' PROGRAM

Murray Dowson, the RWP candidate, was the only contestant for any office in the municipal elections who ran openly as a candidate of a political party and a candidate of the working class. In his numerous speeches to ratepayers' organizations in the various wards of the city, he fearlessly attacked the red-baiters and capitalist candidates and presented the program of his party.

Only the RWP presented a program (published in the last issue of **Labor Challenge**) that squarely faced and answered the needs of the working people of Toronto. This program had as it sfirst point the necessity of independent working class political action—the demand that the workers take over control of City Hall.

The Toronto Branch of the RWP and its supporters distributed 20,000 copies of this program which gave our answer to the problems of housing, price increases and oppressive taxation, in attractive leaflet form, at factory gates and in workers' neighobrhoods. In addition, 7,000 copies of December and Mid-December issues of **Labor Challenge** featuring the RWP election campaign and program reached Toronto workers.

For the first time in their history the Canadian Trotskyists took their program to the workers via the radio. On the evenings of December 26 and 27, in two 10-minute broadcasts over station CKEY, the RWP candidate for mayor explained the issues in the Toronto municipal elections and the program of the party.

In spite of the almost complete blackout of any news of the RWP campaign or program by the capitalist daily press, the silence of the CCF, the support of the Conservative candidate by the Stalinists and the AFL bureaucrats, 3,201 workers voted for the RWP program. This vote represents three per cent of the total vote cast for mayor. The fact that the RWP campaign was financed solely by the dimes and nickels of the workers in comparison to the thousands of dollars spent by the capitalist candidates on propaganda, indicates that there is real suport for the idea of independent working class political action and the program of the RWP among Toronto workers.

FACTORS IN DEFEAT OF LPP AND CCF CANDIDATES

The CCF which ran candidates without the party label in a number of wards, for the minor offices of alderman and Board of Education Trustee, was badly defeated. The Stalinist Labor Progressive Party candidates who also ran with-

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WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Vol. III No. 1 (30) Mid-Jan. 1947 p. 2

ELECTION VICTORY IN ITALY

FOGGIA, ITALY, Dec. 2—The Foggia section of the Communist Workers Party (POC) Italian Section of the Fourth International, succeeded in having R. Mangano elected to the Municipal Council in the Nov. 24th elections.

A total of 1,500 preferential votes were tabulated for Mangano. Another 1,500 were invalidated because workers added revolutionary slogans to their ballots.

This first electoral experience of the POC, formed in 1944, shows the possibilities for the development of a mass revolutionary party in Italy.

RWP IN TORONTO ELECTIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

advocating only a few mild reforms such as the elimination of the smoke nuisance, better street lighting, etc. Although they were in their majority endorsed by the Toronto Trades and Labor ouncil TLC-AFL and the Toronto Labor Council CCL-CIO, they rarely mentioned it and played down labor issues in the campaign. Because the LPP and CCF ran for only a few offices where they hoped to be elected and were not challenging the control of City Hall by the capitalist political machines, the workers showed little interest in the elections.

Neither the CCF nor the Stalinists made any public statements about the RWP's campaign for the highest office in the city. Instead they attempted to kill by silence any interest in the contest which is usually the focal point of any municipal election. In the Toronto Labor Council they united to defeat endorsation for the RWP candidate.

The keynote of the LPP's fight for re-election of its candidates was a defense of the past year's Tory administration as the best in the history of Toronto! The Stalinist machine worked for the re-election of Saunders who as Mayor and a member of the Police Commission shares in the responsibility for the use of police against pickets in recent strikes! The CCF by its silence, on the mayoralty election and the issue of red-baiting, likewise shares in the responsibility for another electoral victory for the forces of reaction in Toronto.

M. A. Sanderson, the notorious "bug man", associate of Osborne-Dempster, Gladstone Muray and Trestrail, led the howling pack of red-baiters. He ran unsuccessfully for the Board of Control as a "100 per cent anti-Communist". Backed by the wealth of Bay Street, the red-baiters and the capitalist political machines with the aid of two dailies were able to bring out the conservative vote, while the workers in their majority remained at home.

LPP FAILED TO ANSWER RED-BAITERS

Only the RWP gave a working class answer to the red-baiters. The Stalinists, supported by the Liberal **Daily Star** and looking for middle class votes, merely reiterated their claim that they are "first, last and always loyal Canadians". May Birchard, alderman for Ward 2 and longtime supporter of the LPP, completely capitulated to the pressure of Big Business propaganda. In the dying moments of the campaign she inserted ads in the daily papers denying any "cummunist" connections but her surrender to reaction did not save her from defeat.

The RWP can well be proud of its campaign for the cause of labor in these civic elections and the support its program and candidate received from the advanced workers. This was a great step forward for the party which was founded but three months ago. The RWP will continue to fight for its program 365 days of the year when the capitalist candidates have long since forgotten their election promises. It promises the workers of Toronto that it will never let a capitalist candidate take the highest office in Toronto by default.

out any party designation were the main butt of the red-baiting campaign. Their chief candidate, Controller Stewart Smith failed to be re-elected to the four-man Board of Control. His vote has only increased by about 700 from the first time he ran for this office four years ago. Only two of the three LPP aldermen were re-elected but they managed to elect two additional members to the Board of Education.

Both the LPP and CCF candidates ran merely as individuals

(Continued on page 4)

01-15-16

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE Vol. III No. 1 (30)
Mid-Jan. 1947

Financial Drive Goes Over Top Workers Back Labor Challenge

By PAUL KANE

We have reached and gone over the top in our $1,500 financial drive. This is inspiring news for the many loyal friends and supporters of *Labor Challenge*. In the closing days of the campaign, funds began to pour in from all across Canada to shoot the total up to $1,518.35.

As the number of days dwindled to where you could count them on one hand and it appeared as if the objective was perhaps too much for us, numerous money orders, checks, and bills began to pour in from supporters across the country. Some comrades who had already done a considerable job in the campaign came to the aid of **Labor Challenge** once again. Harry Noakes of Magna Bay who had previously sent in $10 collected from sympathizers in that small and isolated community forwarded another $5 on the last day

The Toronto comrades and friends who lead the campaign right from the start raised their total to the amazing sum of $877.10 which amounts to well over half of the amount collected nationally. Joe Rose told us that "while generally donations had been seriously cut because of tougher times that are developing and which everyone knows are going to have a devastating effect in the near future, many comrades doubled and in some cases even tripled their donations. Amongst these workers, it was the very knowledge that the capitalist crisis is thundering down upon us with wage cuts, unemployment, etc., that they responded so generously. They know that next year even more so than in the past year it is necessary to have **Labor Challenge** with us to arm and prepare us for future struggles. Many of us hope that this coming year will see **Labor Challenge** a weekly. Our objective was achieved with the aid of many loyal friends and sympathizers here, many of whom made a considerable sacrifice. It has been inspiring for all of us to witness the fine support our campaign received from our readers."

Vancouver made a final spurt to reach its objective of $150. Many of our readers came to the aid of our Vancouver comrades to make this the most successful campaign that we have yet conducted in that area. Montreal went over the top as it has been doing in all our financial drives to score $300.

Don Dotzert sent in a considerable donation to lift Windsor to the very fine total of $70. Prince Rupert's total now stands at $31 and as we close the books we are not yet sure that this is their last word. In previous articles we have reported the splendid work done by **Labor Challenge** fighters in the Prairie provinces and in some British Columbia communities. Without one exception they topped their quotas. Under the conditions that these various comrades work under their efforts might well be considered the finest in the campaign.

The second **Labor Challenge** sustaining campaign closes as a great victory. We have topped an objective which is half again as high as our last one. This campaign registers our past year's growth and forcasts the great potentialities of our ideas and our press. We have met this task in the traditional Trotskyist manner. Congratulations to all our loyal friends, thanks for the support that you have given **Labor Challenge** in its struggle for socialism.

Scoreboard

Alberta	$21.25
Brittania Beach	4.00
Magna Bay	15.00
Milnes Landing	20.00
Montreal	300.00
National Office	10.00
Prince Rupert	31.00
Saskatchewan	20.00
Toronto	877.10
Vancouver	150.00
Windsor	70.00
Total	$1,518.35

01-15-2

LABOR CHALLENGE (31)
February 1947

A LESSON ON REVOLUTIONARY POTENTIAL OF THE WORKERS!

By ROSS DOWSON, National Secretary RWP

Many workers after having read our press and listened to our speakers have made remarks to me that followed this general pattern:

"Sure you're right. The Stalinists have ditched every last vestige of Leninist principle. The leadership is corrupt and completely dominates the party. It cannot become the party of the proletarian revolution. Yes, the CCF is riddled with opportunism. It's reformist through and through and as each day goes by it continues to move more rapidly to the right. You are right a thousand times. But so what? Mass Trotskyist parties, the revolution in Europe and the colonies—yes. But in Canada? Not for many, many decades. You're so small. You only publish a twice monthly paper. After all the most advanced workers are in the CCF and LPP and thousands of Canadian workers are not even sufficiently class conscious to be in those parties yet."

No one is more aware of the enormity of the tasks confronting the workers than we Trotskyists. We know the power and influence of both these parties and the inertia that carries many workers, already skeptical of their program and leadership, along in their ranks.

The usual reply that a comrade will give to this worker is to point out how all ideas and parties have started out with the adherence of very few, how Lenin's party, a hounded and persecuted handful in 1910, rose as favorable conditions developed to overthrow the mighty Czarist Empire. Or he may point out how all the conditions of life are developing in such a manner as to thrust the Canadian workers into revolutionary action. He will go on to demonstrate the great revolutionary potential of the Canadian workers by referring to the great Winnipeg General Strike of 1919. He might even point to the last strike wave that swept across Canada to prove that time and time again, the workers have shown that they have a clearer understanding of their historic tasks and are more prepared for revolutionary action than their "leadership."

But I think that the recent election campaign put on by our Toronto branch is even more timely and demonstrates even more vividly the revolutionary potentialities of the Canadian workers. Our candidate for mayor polled 3,201 votes. We polled this many votes despite almost a complete blackout of our campaign by the bourgeois press. Thousands of working class voters went to the poll and learned for the first time when they picked up their ballot that we were running. On top of this the Stalinists openly campaigned for Bay Street's candidate, the Tory Mayor Saunders. The CCF by its silence and its actions in the Toronto Labor Councils also endorsed his candidature.

But even more significant is the information gained from the detailed breakdown of the vote which has just been released.

This breakdown reveals that in 26 sub-divisions scattered in seven wards that contain working class areas the RWP received the endorsement of over 10 per cent of the electorate. In one sub-division we polled 20 per cent of the entire vote.

Our party despite its limited forces and funds was able to partially break through the press blackout by distributing its election manifesto from door to door in selected areas. It was in these areas that we polled this splendid vote.

While this election witnessed a serious set-back for both the CCF and the LPP, at the same time it saw the rise of a healthy revolutionary force, the RWP; 3,201 workers voted for our program. These were Canadian workers and they voted for a program of revolutionary anti-capitalist struggle. This is what we mean when we talk about the potentialities of our program and our party.

Our program is the only realistic answer to the problems confronting the Canadian workers. As the housing crisis, inflationary price rises, oppressive tax increases and unemployment continue to press upon the workers, they search for a solution. They attempt to dump these overwhelming burdens from their backs. What is the way out? Over 3,000 workers endorsed our program as the answer.

02_01-1

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(31) February 1947

02-01-2

January 'Fourth International' Reports American Trotskyist 12th Convention

The January issue of **Fourth International**, theoretical organ of the American Trotskyists, features the resolutions and proceedings of the Socialist Workers Party's 12th National Convention. This convention, the editors explain, "signalized a new stage in the forward march of American Trotskyism."

The convention brought together in Chicago, on Nov. 15-18, 1946, delegates from all parts of the U.S. who represented "a genuine cross-section not only of the organized labor movement, but of the American working class as a whole."

They constituted a working body which deliberated upon the revolutionary tasks and perspectives throughout the world, and adopted resolutions and decisions that "will make it possible for the SWP to take giant steps on the main highway that leads to the party of mass action."

Summaries of the international, trade union, and organizational reports are presented by the editors of **Fourth International**. The **Theses on the American Revolution**, analyzing the traditions, strength, and changing composition of the working class in the United States, are printed in full. They explain the growing radicalization of the masses and the possibility which now exists for a rapid development of a revolutionary situation.

To successfully meet the coming crisis, it is essential that Trotskyists increase and consolidate their forces, engage in mass activities, and become the recognized leader of the working class. These tasks are set forth in **From a Propaganda Group to a Party of Mass Action**, which is also published in full.

An article on **Economic Trends in the United States**, by Art Preis, confirms the analysis made in the convention documents and draws attention to the "inevitable economic explosion" which will shatter capitalist economy. "That crisis—as Wall Street well knows—will bear with it profound revolutionary implications," the author concludes.

An economic crisis and the consequent radicalization of the working class in America will have profound repercussions in Canada Moreover, the experiences of the Trotskyists in the United States provide valuable lessons for revolutionary socialists here, who also face the task of building a mass party capable of leading the working class. The January issue of **Fourth International** is therefore doubly important for militant Canadian workers.

Single copies can be obtained for 30c, yearly subscription **$2.15**, **six** months subscription $1.15, from **Labor Challenge**, 87 King St. W., Room 5, Toronto 1, Ontario.

ROLE OF THE TROTSKYISTS

Only the Trotskyist International Communist Party and its paper, **La Verite**, give full support to the struggle of the Indo-Chinese workers and peasants for independence. Only **La Verite** calls for the immediate liberation of Indo-China and the withdrawal of all French troops. Recently the Trotskyists were forbidden to hold a meeting to express the solidarity of the French workers with their Indo-Chinese comrades.

Meanwhile a steady stream of war supplies is leaving French ports daily. None of these supplies or troops would be moving if the Stalinist leadership of the unions would call on the workers to refuse to aid the imperialist butchers.

The conduct of the Stalinists and Socialists would be treachery under any circumstances. But when carried out by parties with the strength and influence that the CP and SP wield in France today, it represents a new low for parties long accustomed to delivering stabs in the back to the labor movement. If they wanted to, they could paralyze the whole Indo-China war program in 48 hours.

But they don't want to. The choice is between fighting the French imperialists or the Indo-Chinese victims of imperialism. They have made their choice and their hands are stained with the blood of the Indo-Chinese masses.

48 Countries Now Have Conscripton

Conscription is in effect in 48 countries, according to an Overseas News Agency survey released recently. The total number of countries enforcing conscription is greater today than before World War II, despite the disarming of the Axis countries and their satellites. Not a single nation has shown a sign of discarding conscription since the adoption of the United Nations disarmament resolution in December.

RWP Condemns French Raid On Worker, Rally

TORONTO, Jan. 30.—A strong protest against the arrest of French workers participating in a meeting to demand freedom for Indo-China, was today lodged with the French ambassador in Canada and with the French government, by Murray Dowson, editor of **Labor Challenge** and representative of the Revolutionary Workers Party (Canadian section of the Fourth International).

Telegrams sent to Ambassador Count Jean de Hautecloque at Ottawa and to Premier Ramadier at Paris declared:

"We have been informed that on Jan. 24, a meeting in Paris to protest against the colonial expedition in Indo-China and to demand independence for the Viet Nam, was banned by the French government. This meeting, called by the PCI (Parti Communiste Internationaliste, French section of the Fourth International) was brutally dispersed by about 300 police agents. Several members of the audience were beaten and arrested, among them Yvan Craipeau, General Secretary of the PCI.

"The Revolutionary Workers Party, Canadian section of the Fourth International, strongly protests this violation of the right of assembly and the most elementary democratic liberties of the French workers. We demand immediate release of all who were arrested, and recognition of the right of French workers to freely express their solidarity with the Indo-Chinese people in their fight for freedom.

"The Revolutionary Workers Party supports the Indo-Chinese struggle for independence and demands immediate withdrawal of French troops."

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE
(31) Feb. 1947

MANAGER'S COLUMN

By GINA LUND

New subscriptions and renewals to **Labor Challenge** have been coming in steadily during the past month, in spite of the fact that our friends and sympathizers were devoting their main attention to the $1,500 fund campaign.

The Vancouver branch of the Revolutionary Workers Party did a fine job, mailing us eight one-year subs and five six-month subs, while raising its full quota in the campaign. Comrade Ellaline writes further: "Don and Stan made a distribution of some back issues (only a small number) in the crowded industrial territory of Granville Island, which contains small chemical plants, etc. This will be followed up by a full distribution at a later date. The North Vancouver comrades finished distributing the last two issues at sawmills on the north shore."

The Vancouver branch also reports that its social of Dec. 21 featured a brief talk by Lloyd Whalen on the role **Labor Challenge** would fill in the coming period. Another comrade related anecdotes on "the lighter side of canvassing across the country on behalf of **Labor Challenge.**"

The Toronto branch has been securing subs at a steady pace. Six new one-year subs and seven new six-month subs top the list; several of these were obtained as a direct result of the election campaign. Our hard-working comrades chalked up in addition five one-year renewals and 15 six-month renewals.

A mobilization of the branch for one afternoon's work of visiting subscribers, was responsible for 12 of the renewals. Another mobilization is planned for Sunday, Jan. 26, when a greater percentage of workers will be at home, and the results even more fruitful.

Joe Rose tells us that Toronto is taking every advantage of the work done in the campaign to elect Murray Dowson. Distributions of **Labor Challenge,** with a letter telling the role of the paper, will be made in the sections of the city where the vote for Dowson was proportionately high.

Jim Seward sent in a one-year and two six-month subs from Wiseton, informing us that two of the new subscribers "are good Trotskyist prospects . . . I gave one of them a number of **Labor Challenge** at Regina when I was attending the United Farmers of Canada convention. I think I found very good soil among the delegates and visitors, by distributing the bundle you sent me."

Other subscriptions have come in from widely separated parts of Canada. The list includes:

Magna Bay—1 one-year, 1 six-month renewal.

Hamilton, Ont.—1 one-year.

Alice Arm, B.C.—1 six-month renewal.

Cobble Hill, B.C.—1 six-month renewal.

Edmonton—1 one-year.

Crowland, Ont.—1 one-year.

Victoria, B.C.—1 six-month renewal.

Kamloops, B.C.—1 one-year renewal.

Newbury, Ont.—1 one-year renewal.

Ottawa, Ont.—1 six-month renewal.

Montreal, Que.—1 one-year renewal.

And to complete the list, we received a one-year sub from Long Island, U.S.A.

We would like to take this opportunity to announce the prize-winners in the fund campaign. In Toronto, the watch was awarded to M. Cyr, Eastview, Ont., and a consolation prize of a pocket book to R. Deathe, 84 Harvard St., Toronto. In Vancouver turkeys went to McDonald, 1912 Powell St.; A. Burgunder, 889 Tobruk, North Vancouver; C. Harrington, 1946 Pandora St.; Paula Hill, 1571 William St.; Mrs. P. Hammond, 1718 Haro St.; and C. P. Barron, Townsite, Britannia, B.C.

The consolation prize was given to T. Money, RR. 2, Victoria, B.C.

Buy "Labor Challenge"

02-01-3

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(32) Mid-Feb. 1947

Bolivians Elect Four Trotskyists On Workers' United Front Slate

Four Trotskyists were elected to the Bolivian Parliament on Jan 5, including three to the Chamber of Deputies, and one to the Senate. We publish below a report on the elections by a Bolivian correspondent:

By JUAN VALVERDE

BOLIVIA, Jan. 14.—Prior to the July Rebellion which overthrew the Villarroel government, the Revolutionary Workers Party, Bolivian section of the Fourth International, could not even dream of participating in the electoral struggle. But the revolutionary tide which has risen notably since that time not only has awakened large masses of the exploited from their lethargy, not only has demonstrated the justice and immediate practicability of the Trotskyist slogans, but even more, has converted the RWP into a national political force.

The party has grown more in a few months than in many preceding years when the Stalinists with their usual stupidity ridiculed the numerical and political "insignificance" of Trotskyism, forgetting that the importance of the revolutionary vanguard lies not in numbers but in the power of its Marxist slogans and analysis.

After the July rebellion, the big mining capitalists took over the reins of power personally. Undoubtedly, the pressure of the masses, their revolutionary onward surge, kept the capitalists from undertaking an immediate offensive against the workers' conquests or against capitalist democracy itself, leaving the workers' parties relatively free to struggle and organize.

02-15-1a

JULY EVENTS

The July events in La Paz are still fresh in the memory both of the masses and of the capitalists. The people are armed in La Paz. To launch an all-out assault on social legislation or democracy at this time would have been too dangerous.

But the common front adopted by ALL the capitalists against the workers does not wipe out the contradictions existing in the capitalist camp. The native capitalists who are simply agents of imperialism reflect the contradictions between different imperialist groups. That is precisely the meaning of the contest between the two most important presidential candidates: **Hertzog** (Republican "Socialist" Union) and **Guachalla** ("National Unity" backed by the Stalinists and followed reluctantly by the liberals).

While Hertzog represents the interests of the mining magnate Patino, and of Anglo-Argentinian imperialism; Guachalla is the defender of the interests

(Continued on page 3)

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LABOR CHALLENGE
(32) Mid-Feb. 1947

Trotskyists Elected to Bolivia Parliament

(Continued from page 1)

of Hoschildt and Arramayo, (Patino's competitor) and of Yankee imperialism.

Even though they are enemies, they have a common bond—defense of the general interests of the capitalists. They know that they have to unite against the proletarian upsurge. This is the meaning of the cordial embraces by Hertzog and Guachalla before representatives of the press and of their mutual guarantees that the elections would be clean and democratic, that they would be an example to posterity no matter who wins.

Against the candidates presented by the capitalists has risen the Proletarian United Front, which is supported by the RWP. This united front abstained from the presidential and vice-presidential election, and has instead intervened in the electoral struggle in various mining centers.

SOME VICTORIES

Although formed only recently, the Proletarian United Front has nevertheless gained some outstanding victories, which show clearly the power of the revolutionary upsurge sweeping Bolivia. The Bolivian upsurge heralds the revolutionary wave approaching in all of Latin America. In spite of the fabulous resources at the disposal of both capitalist parties, in spite of all the wire-pulling, all the deceit, so classic in Bolivian elections, several revolutionary workers' representatives will go to the next Parliament. They are:

Deputies:

Guillermo Lora (RWP) from Bustillos.

Humberto Salamanca (RWP) from Dalence.

Javier Aspiazu (RWP) from Larecaja.

A. Costa de la Torre (miner) from Pacajes.

Anibal Vargas (miner) from Sud Chichas.

Mario Torrez (miner) from Quijaro.

Senators:

Juan Lechin (miner) elected both in Potosi and in Oruro — in both by majority.

Lucio Mendivil (RWP) second majority in Potosi.

As compared to the number of Stalinist deputies that may come to more than 30, these representatives will, perhaps seem very few. But their importance is enormous. This is the first time that Trotskyist deputies will enter the Bolivian Parliament. And —as far as I know—Bolivia is the first country in the Western Hemisphere to have Trotskyists in its Congress.

OTHER FACTORS

During these elections there were other factors present which are worthy of mention:

The Revolutionary Nationalist Movement (recently deposed from the government), has been defeated in the entire Republic and will have only one deputy, in spite of having utilized the name of Juan Lechin, **against his will**, on its vice-presidential ballot. Lechin has stated publicly that he reserves the right to prosecute them in criminal action.

The victory of the Stalinists (PIR) in different rural areas should not be interpreted as a sign of strength. It only demonstrates the growing political consciousness of the peasants who supported the opportunists against the USR slate which was backed by the landowners. This very victory shows the inconsistencies of Stalinism, since the revolutionary road to the peasants is through the working class. In the mining centers the PIR has suffered some crushing defeats. Thus, for example, Jose Antonio Arze, chief of the PIR, was defeated in the senatorial election in Oruro by the Proletarian United Front candidate, Juan Lechin.

The Bolivian Workers Socialist Party, led by Tristan Maroff, is to the left of the Stalinists. But it is more adventurist than revolutionary, and it has failed throughout the country and will not have a single representative in Parliament. With the heightening of the crisis, as Trotsky foresaw, the centrists must fold up.

The Bolivian "Socialist" Falange, a fundamentally fascist grouping will have two representatives in the Parliament. Its growth is due to the deepening of the crisis and the aggravation of the class struggle. If hitherto, they were simply a gang of adventurers and killers at the beck and call of any Minister who bought their services, today they must be considered as the last reserve of the big capitalists faced with the rising tide of the proletariat.

SALIENT FACT

Such in general is the picture of the latest elections in Bolivia It has not yet been determined who won the Presidency, although Hertzog has a slight lead over Gauchalla. Probably neither will have the required majority of votes (at present the count shows them almost tied). In the event of a tie by Congress will decide on the Presidential contest. But even if Hertzog should be elected president, it is almost certain that Yankee imperialism will predominate.

Whichever capitalist group lifts itself into power, the revolutionary struggle of the RWP cannot be stopped. Ever greater and more important working class sections rally to its banner. The slogan of the Proletarian United Front, as a broad mass organization for the struggle against capitalism, against misery and against fascism, has already demonstrated its superiority over the opportunist slogan of "National Unity" advanced by the Stalinists

The RWP is converting itself into a mass party. And this is undoubtedly the most salient fact about present political develop-in Bolivia.

Repression Grows

Trotskyist Seized In Burma Raid

The "Red Flag" Cultivators Union, described as Trotskyist, and the Communist (Stalinist) Party were banned on Jan. 24 by a special edition of the official Gazette, according to a Reuters dispatch.

The brief article declares that police "rounded up Communists and other political party leaders" after declaring the two parties "unlawful associations."

"Twenty-six persons were arrested," Reuters reports, "including Thakin Soe, 'Red Flag' leader, who surrendered to the police after a dramatic attempt to evade capture.

"Police rounded up Communists who had camped in the precincts of the Shwedagon Pagoda, but Thakin Soe escaped into the shrine where police were not permitted to enter.

"Armed police waited outside for several hours before he emerged. A brief tussle followed before he was overpowered. He was then taken to prison.

"The roundup of Communists, who are charged with rioting, is continuing and more arrests were expected tonight."

02-15-16

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE (32) Mid-Feb. 1947

TROTSKYIST PROGRAM IS SOLE REALISTIC ONE FOR WORKERS

By ROSS DOWSON, National Secretary RWP

As events unfold on a world scale, one cannot help but be struck by the fact that the real character of Trotskyism as the front rank fighter of the working class is becoming clearer every day.

For many years even to the most advanced workers Trotskyism appeared to be a Russian phenomenon. Trotsky and the Left Opposition appeared to be waging a futile, hair-splitting, theoretical struggle. The bourgeoisie and their agents in the labor movement were able to pass off this great conflict (personified by Stalin and Trotsky) as one for personal power. The whole affair seemed utterly remote from the problems of the Canadian workers, something concerning only Russia and perhaps China and Germany.

It was around the theory of the world revolution that the whole struggle commenced. What had been the guide post of Lenin and the entire Bolshevik party was dumped by the rising bureaucracy. When Trotsky attacked Stalin's pernicious theory of "socialism in one country," his defense of the world revolution was distorted to appear as the fantasy of a single, simultaneous world-wide revolution.

UNCEASING STRUGGLE

The Trotskyists who waged an unceasing struggle against the gradual, eating away and destruction of the conquests of the October Revolution were branded as "socialist perfectionists." Stalin was pictured as the "realist" of the Russian Revolution.

The bureaucracy consolidated its parasitic rule as the postwar revolutionary wave ebbed. Trotsky and his followers were driven from the party, most of them subsequently destroyed in the vast purges of 1936-38.

Today even the blind man can see who was the realist—Stalin or Trotsky. What remains of the great October Revolution has been brought to the brink of disaster by the criminal, counter-revolutionary policies of Stalin. The USSR is completely encircled by hungry world imperialism. The only forces capable of defending it, the international working class, are confused and disoriented by the destruction of workers' democracy, the Moscow frame-ups, the looting and pillage of occupied Europe.

Who could have foreseen that the once glorious Third International would follow the path of the "yellow" Second International and dragoon the masses into the second imperialist world slaughter? Who could have foreseen that Tim Buck and the LPP would become the spearhead for the no-strike pledge, for labor-management collaboration and unity with the capitalist Liberal Party?

Who could have foreseen that Stalinism, along with the Social Democratic lackeys of the bourgeosie, would become the main prop of that "thieves' kitchen," the United Nations? Who could have foreseen that "communist" ministers representing the largest political party in France would participate in war against the heroic Indo-Chinese fighters for freedom?

FORESAW ROLE

Trotsky and his small band of followers foresaw all this, for the root of the "Stalin-Trotsky feud" was social-patriotism versus internationalism, weak-kneed capitulation before capitalism versus anti-capitalist struggle.

Trotsky, who saw further and understood more than anyone else, was foully murdered by the GPU. Numerous co-workers were struck down and his followers hounded and persecuted. But the social betrayers can never succeed in breaking the revolutionary will of the proletariat. Trotskyism can never be destroyed for it is that will to struggle — the will to fight and destroy capitalism and all its barbarities. In the end Trotskyism will be victorious, for it is the only practical, the only realistic guide for the world working class.

In Canada, the Revolutionary Workers Party is the Trotskyist fighter for the working class. In the recent Toronto municipal elections, it was the RWP, not the more powerful and influential LPP or CCF who challenged in deeds and words the key post of Tory reaction. It is the Trotskyists who have advanced the only demand capable of defending the standard of living of the Canadian workers, the sliding scale of wages.

Only the Trotskyists have protested the slaughter of the Indo-Chinese masses at the hands of the armies of imperialist France — only they have solidarized themselves with the oppressed colonial peoples.

"To face reality squarely; not to seek the line of least resistance; to call things by their right names; to speak the truth to the masses—no matter how bitter it may be; not to fear obstacles; to be true in little things as in big ones; to base one's program on the logic of the class struggle; to be bold when the hour for action arrives — these are the rules of the Fourth International." This is Trotskyism.

02-15-2

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE
(32) Mid-Feb. 1947

SWP Demands End To French War In Indo-China

Special to Labor Challenge

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—Shouting "Hands Off Indo-China" and "No U.S. Guns to France," more than 250 demonstrators, led by the Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyist) and Workers Party, picketed the French consulate at Rockefeller Center on Fifth Ave. and 48th St. today at noon.

The picket line, including a group of Indo-Chinese residents of this city, protested the war being waged by the French government against the independent Viet-Nam republic and the use of American arms to shoot down the Indo-Chinese people.

A joint statement by George Clarke, organizer of the New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party, Paul Bern, New York organizer of the Workers Party, and "A Group of Viet-Nams" stated:

"The fraudulent claim of the French Government that their troops are in Indo-China to 'establish order' is the same pretext used by all imperialist brigands to justify their brutal exploitation and oppression of colonial peoples.

"We especially condemn the use of American arms and munitions to shoot down the people of Indo-China. We consider this as a manifestation of the reactionary role of American capitalism which is being transformed into an arsenal of world imperialism in its drive to keep the colonial peoples in subjection."

The statement demanded the "immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all French troops from Indo-China" and condemned "the French Government for prohibiting the Paris demonstration for freedom of Indo-China sponsored by the Parti Communiste Internationaliste, French Section of the Fourth International."

Large crowds were attracted by the slogan-shouting demonstrators in close formation with several dozen banners before both the Fifth Ave. and 48th St. entrances of the French Building.

02-15-3

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE (33) March 1947

UNITY IN STRUGGLE

By ROSS DOWSON, National Secretary, RWP

Reaction is tightening its grip on Canada. The anti-labor law drive in Ottawa, and the mushrooming of racial and religious discrimination, are important warning signals of even worse repressions to come, unless labor beats back the forces of monopoly capitalism. But there is no reason for pessimism. Labor has the power and the will to defeat reaction, if it unites in common struggle. And the ranks of the working class have always shown their desire for such unity, for such joint struggle against their enemies. We Marxists have always stood for the united front and continue to do so.

Society today contains many diverse social and cultural organizations and political parties. A united front consists of an agreement for joint action on specific issues, reached between two or more parties and organizations which have different programs.

Thus it is possible for a united front on certain issues to embrace organizations with vast differences. For instance, the party of the socialist revolution, the Revolutionary Workers Party, the reformist CCF, the Stalinized LPP, trade unions, social and cultural organizations, and yes, sometimes even bourgeois organizations, particularly civil liberties groups and so on, might unite on some issue.

This is possible for in this agreement on a **specific issue** there is absolutely no question of a common political program. Each organization retains its entire program intact, retains the right to put it forward, and retains the right to criticize the other organizations in the united front agreement either in general or for failure to carry out properly the united front agreement.

Thus in the united front each organization guards its full independence, while at the same time the widest possible unity can be achieved for carrying through some action accepted as desirable by all the organizations.

We Trotskyists do not merely accept the united front passively. We are the most active and consistent advocates of it. United fronts in support of a strike, to combat race discrimination, and eventually to form defense guards against fascist gangs, and finally the formation of farmers' and soldiers' committees are not merely possible but indispensable for successful struggle.

It is only through the united front that the widest possible forces can be organized. At the same time the masses are given a chance to compare in action the worth and dependability of the ideas and methods of the various organizations and parties which strive for their allegiance.

The CCF and the LPP have consistently resisted and fought against genuine united action. The class struggle, the living movement of the workers, is completely alien to Coldwell and Company. Their horizon is limited to the bourgeois parliamentary apparatus.

The LPP shouts the loudest for united action but is its most deadly foe. It counterposes to the united front, to genuine united action, "a broad people's movement" or People's Front. The People's Front is not an agreement for joint action on specific issues but demands the acceptance of a **common program** by all members of the front. This program can only be the program of the non-working-class elements

By accepting the program of the People's Front the working class organizations thereby accept the defense of capitalism. The Spanish Popular Front, designed to stop Franco, became the hangman of the revolutionists and signed the peace with victorious fascists. The "broad people's movement" in Canada tied the LPP workers to support of the capitalist Liberal Party machine in the last elections.

King's plans for a legislative assault on working class rights, Duplessis' attacks on civil liberties, the rise of racial prejudice, all point to the need for united action by labor. Only through the united front can the workers with their massive strength destroy these attacks and move on to the next stage—the seizure of power.

03-01-1

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE
(33) March 1947

Revolutionists Active In Burma

By ROBERT L. BIRCHMAN

While leaders of the Burmese nationalist movement were making a deal with the British government in London, the fight for genuine independence was reaching new heights. Playing a leading role in this fight, according to dispatches from Burma, was an independent communist party described as Trotskyist.

The deal worked out between the Attlee government and U Aung San, leader of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League, resembles the arrangement made in India. Its terms provide for a Constituent Assembly to be chosen in April to draw up a constitution. Until then a Burmese interim government, headed by U Aung San, will control Burmese armed forces and finances.

The joker, of course, is that the question of British forces in Burma will not be settled until a treaty is adopted guaranteeing British imperialist interests in the country. Attlee refused to pledge independence within one year.

OPPOSITION RISING

Meanwhile, according to the Feb. 3 Time magazine, U Aung San "liked the idea of British troops staying awhile to help him control the Reds, some of whom could not even be controlled by Moscow."

There are two communist parties in Burma. One is the Communist Party of Burma, led by Thakin Than Tun and Thein Pe. The other, often called Trotskyist, is the "Red Flag" Communist Party, led by Thakin Soe.

Both oppose the policies of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League, in which they participated until last November, and both appear to exercise a mass influence. The following dispatches indicate their policies and activities:

Thakin Soe, accusing U Aung San of betraying his country's cause, was quoted as saying:

"Aung San may parley with the British imperialists, but the people's revolution against British imperialism and its hirelings in Burma will go on." (Reuters, Jan. 7).

Thakin Soe denounced the London talks as a farce. "We are not interested in the London negotiations," he said. "We know nothing will come out of them. We are not interested in the British-sponsored general elections in April. We will not participate in them."

Two days later, the Associated Press wired from Rangoon that "red-shirted communist followers of Thakin Than Tun had engaged in a pitched battle with police and forces of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League in Yamethin, 250 miles North of Rangoon."

On Jan. 13, police arrested 22 of some 500 communists demonstrating on behalf of the Burmese unemployed. Thakin Soe was one of the leaders of the demonstration.

On Jan. 30, Reuters reported "thousands of 'red flag' (non-party) communists had threatened to besiege the government offices here." It told of 4,000 "red sympathizers" arriving "by boat from the north." Schools and many shops were closed, and a large scale strike expected.

Thakin Soe declared: This is going to be a do-or-die struggle. Let them shoot us if they dare. Then they will know what a backing we have in the country."

On Jan. 24, when the deal in London had already been worked out, "Burma police rounded up Communists and other political party leaders today as a special edition of the official Gazette imposed a ban on the Communist Party of Burma and the 'Red Flag' Cultivators Union (Trotskyites)." Police arrested 26, including Thaken Soe, as reported in the Mid-February issue of **Labor Challenge.**

9,000 MOBILIZE

The roundup of communists, who were charged with rioting, was reported as continuing, with further arrests expected. Reuters quotes from an official announcement that says:

"Party members and their dupes have carried out mass invasions of courts of law and government offices in Rangoon as well as in the districts with the object of overawing magistrates and other officers of the government into passing orders wanted by the party." The announcement adds that "Crowds organized by the Communist party stated that their ultimate aim was rebellion and distributed pamphlets advocating this course."

Two days after these arrests, 9,000 workers representing 48 labor organizations at a mass meeting in Rangoon, declared their intention to stage an immediate strike until Jan. 31 "in anticipation of the Burmese delegation's return from London, when further orders may be issued," according to Reuters' dispatches. A resolution adopted by the meeting stated that if no reply was received regarding Burma's demands for independence by Jan. 31, the workers will "go one step further in achieving their aims."

With 20,000 Burmese workers out on strike by Jan. 28, the secretary of the Rangoon Port Commissioners said "the strike could be settled amicably but the trouble is that the strikers' grievances are of a political nature."

RECORD IS CONSISTENT

Whether or not Thakin Soe and the Red Flag Communists are Trotskyists has not yet been verified, but his record certainly shows him to be a consistent revolutionist.

Thakin Soe was a prewar leader in the Dhobama Asi-Ayone, leading nationalist organization with socialist tendencies. The Dhobama Asi-Ayone played a prominent role in the organization of workers and students and led the workers' struggle on the basis of unity between the Burmese workers and the large numbers of Indian workers in Burma.

When the Japanese invaded Burma, Thakin Soe refused to collaborate with the Japanese against the British in return for promises of independence. Soe insisted that freedom for Burma could be won only by uniting all section of the people in a common struggle against all forms of aggression and foreign domination.

FOUGHT UNDERGROUND

A section of the Dhobama leadership under U Aung San went over to the Japanese, but they soon found that the Japanese were as oppressive as the British. Thakin Soe and other left-wingers who were opposel to any deal with the Japanese, gained in popularity and influence. In 1942 Thakin Soe and others broke out of jails where the British had left them and began to build the anti-Japanese underground movement known as the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League.

It is said that Thakin Soe met secretly with U Aung San and convinced him of the need to break with the Japanese imperialists.

From incomplete information it appears that Thakin Soe, Than Tun and Thein Pe, who were the left-wing leaders in the Dhobama before the war, joined the Communist Party, which grew in size and influence during the war. **World News,** Stalinist publication in London, stated on Sept. 15, 1945, that "Soe and other members at risk of their life, played a great part in bringing the united resistance movement to birth."

Labor Monthly, Stalinist publication, edited by R. Palme Dutt in London, reported in Nov. 1946: "Earlier this year a minority of the CP under Thakin Soe broke away to form the 'Burmese Communist Party'."

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03-01-2

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(33) March 1947

MANAGER'S COLUMN

By GINA LUND

Even the howling blizzards that swept Canada in recent weeks haven't been able to stop the devoted friends of **Labor Challenge** from securing new subscriptions to the paper, and visiting readers whose subs expired, to obtain prompt renewals.

* * *

In Toronto, members of the Revolutionary Workers Party have been hard at work, conducting mobilizations in the areas where trial subs were secured a few months ago. They have now chalked up 19 more six-month and six one-year renewals. Comrade Joe Rose reports that "mopping up" operations will continue until many more readers have been seen.

At the same time, Toronto comrades brought in four new six-month subs, and carried out distributions of **Labor Challenge** to three more areas in which the RWP secured high returns in the January election.

Not content with doing work in its own territory, the branch dispatched Comrades Sonia and Ed to the important industrial town of Hamilton. Here the comrades secured seven more six-month renewals, averaging over 40 per cent returns for the 16 people they were able to visit on one Sunday afternoon.

The branch hopes to send another comrade to Hamilton in the near future, to visit more of our readers who were not at home during the first trip.

* * *

From British Columbia we received six new six-month subs and one new one-year sub, as well as three one-year renewals. Special credit goes to Comrade Bonn, for obtaining half of the new subs one each in Port Hammond, Mission and Haney.

* * *

The Vancouver comrades, handicapped by severe storms, managed to send us one six-month and three one-year renewals, to prove they're still on the job. We're sure that next month their total will be big enough to show what they can really do.

* * *

Other subs received last month include a new one-year sub from Kingston, Ont., a one-year renewal from Montreal, an 18-month renewal from a reader in Moon Lake, Alta., and two new one-year subs from the United States—one each from Detroit and Seattle.

Appeal For Marxist Works In German

Readers of **Labor Challenge** who have Marxist books and pamphlets in the German language are urged to send us any copies they can spare. The literature will be sent to Europe for the use of revolutionists.

Address all packages to Labor Challenge, 87 King St. W., Room 5, Toronto, Ont.

03-01-3

PICKETS HIT DISCRIMINATION AT TORONTO RINK

By ROSE BURKE

TORONTO, Feb. 12.—Over 200 young people picketed the Icelandia skating rink tonight, in reply to the management's return to a policy of discrimination.

Last month militant action by many youth organizations and the Revolutionary Workers Pary, protested previous acts of racial discrimination. The management, which had barred Negro and Jewish youth, then surrendered and admitted a Negro couple as reporters watched.

But shortly afterward, according to a report by James Coleman in the **Globe and Mail**, a 17-year-old Macedonian boy was ejected from the skating rink.

Again a picket line was thrown around the rink. This time the demonstration had the endorsement of the newly-formed CIO-CCL Anti-Discrimination Committee. Picketers included members of Toronto Jewish Youth Council, the National Federation of Labor Youth, CCYM, the Revolutionary Workers Party, Church Youth groups, and veterans of the Second World War, members of the Gen. Wingate post of the Canadian Legion.

Two police officers kept close watch as the picketers marched with their placards held high. Four more cops stared from a car nearby, as the line paraded to the tune of "Hold the Fort" and "Solidarity Forever."

The mass protests against discrimination at Icelandia have produced an amendment to the Toronto licensing by-law. Licenses can now be cancelled if public halls or places of amusement deny admittance on the grounds of race, creed or color. The issuance of licenses is under jurisdiction of the police department.

Although the passage of this amendment is a concession won by the effective picket lines, the workers cannot depend upon the police department to now enforce the ruling. Only continued vigilance and further mass action if the need arises, will guarantee enforcement of the licensing act.

Toronto Readers

Are Invited to Attend the

SUNDAY NIGHT FORUMS

87 King W., Room 5

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The Reactionary Nature of Zionism

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WORKERS PARTY

Questions and Discussion

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party — Canadian Section, Fourth International

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Workers' Councils In British Crisis
(See Page 3)

P.E.I. Premier Threatens To Ban All Trade Unions

By DAVID WILLIAMS

Emboldened by the cowardly policies of the official trade union leaders, labor-haters are now threatening even more drastic measures than those contained in Ottawa's draft of a bill to replace Order in Council P.C. 1003.

Addressing the Charlottetown branch of the Canadian Legion on Feb. 27, Walter Jones, Premier of Prince Edward Island, howled that "if we get our backs up we may pass a law outlawing all unions in this province. . . ."

Jones, as Premier of an overwhelmingly rural province, doesn't fear labor's vote. Therefore he is brazenly expressing what all the capitalist politicians are secretly scheming. The political stooges of the monopolies are united against the working class; they are feeling out the ground, to see how far they can go before mass resistance by the working class calls a halt to their campaign.

FEEBLE PROTESTS

So far, they have met with only feeble protests from the labor bureaucrats in the powerful CIO-CCL and AFL-TLC unions. While complaining of "some aspects" of the Ottawa bill that would limit the right to strike and ban organizing on the job, the trade union leadership has minimized its dangers.

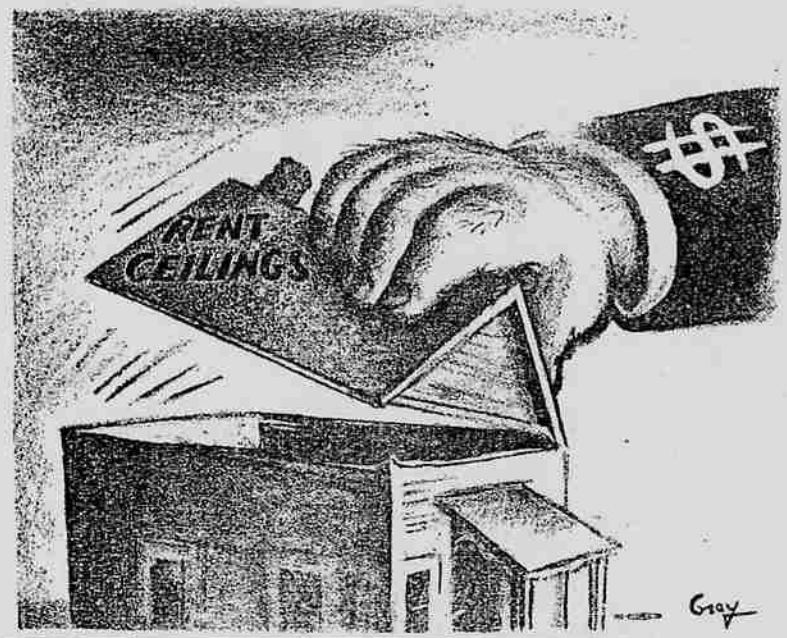
In a futile effort to appease the labor-haters, they are trying to curtail the workers' demands for higher wages to meet the constantly soaring cost of living.

As **Labor Challenge** reported two weeks ago, C. H. Millard, national director of the United Steelworkers, has gone so far as to totally abandon the demand for wage increases, substituting a fraudulent campaign for a price roll-back.

IGNORE CONNECTION

And those union leaders who have called for wage increases this year, have shown little more militancy. They have not even outlined a plan of action on the wage-front. They too have tried to ignore the direct connection between labor's need for higher pay, and the corporations' furious legislative assault against the unions.

RAISING THE ROOF



Buck Demands Firm Empire Ties In London CP Conference Speech

By MURRAY DOWSON

The six-day conference of leaders of the Stalinist parties in the British Empire came to a close in London early this month. Fraternal delegates from most of the important Communist (Stalinist) Parties in the world, save the Italian and Russian, attended. This was the first open international gathering held since the Seventh Congress of the Communist International in 1935.

One of the reasons for the meeting of "Empire Communists" was revealed by developments at the convention of the Communist Party of Great Britain. Held a few days before the Empire Conference, the CPGB convention showed that like most Stalinist parties it too was suffering from internal difficulties. (See story on Page 3).

The main resolutions of the British convention set the tone for the deliberations of the "Empire Conference." Harry Pollitt, general secretary of the CPGB, stated it called for an integration of the "planned economy of socialist states" like Great Britain, with that of the Soviet Union. In other words, it demanded a full alliance with Stalin.

It threatened the Labor Party and the capitalist class with opposition

Dosco's 'Poverty' Is Bookkeeping Trick Coal Report Shows

By GORDON JAMES

The Dominion Steel and Coal Company is pleading poverty while

10% RENT-HIKE STILL THREAT, GOV'T ADMITS

By PAUL KANE

Government plans to smash the rent ceilings on apartments and houses and thus strike another blow at the Canadian workers' standard of living, were dramatically exposed in the House of Commons by CCF leader M. J. Coldwell a few weeks ago.

Just a few seconds previously Minister of Finance Abbott had replied with an emphatic No to Coldwell's query if it were true that the Wartime Prices and Trade Board was distributing lease forms calling for a 10 per cent increase. Quickly Coldwell shot across the House floor a form headed "WPTB Landlords offer of a lease for a term certain of two years."

A space left blank for the insertion of a rent increase was followed by the words, "being an increase in rental of not more than 10 per cent of the present maximum rental of the above described accommodation." Another clause was to the effect that if the increase was not accepted, "you must vacate the accommodation on the ——."

APPETITES WHETTED

It was only a matter of days prior to this that Ottawa had bowed before the mounting pressure of the profit bloated trust and mortgage companies and real-estate sharks to grant a rise in commercial rents to the extent of 25 per cent. Their appetites only whetted by this long anticipated flood of gold, the landlords launched a sharp drive for the removal of ceilings on homes and apartments.

The exposure of the government's intention to grant a rent increase came as no surprise to the hundreds of thousands of renters across the country. Over a year ago the WPTB permitted land-

Kane - see p. 2 →

Veterans Protest As Mounting Prices Slash Allowances

The growing hardships imposed upon the Canadian working class by the price-gouging profiteers were brought into sharp focus last month by the revelation that university veterans may be forced to leave school unless prices stop rising.

On March 1, according to the **Toronto Globe & Mail**, "a survey showed that the lowest figure at which any veteran could subsist—and omitting luxuries such as smokes, entertainments and shows—to be $62.50." Yet the present allowance is $60 for single and $80 for married veterans.

In Montreal, hard-pressed veterans have been demonstrating for monthly allowance increases of $20 for single and $40 for married students. They carried placards reading: "Can you live on an empty stomach, Mr. King? We fought for you, now support us!"

The veterans' plight reflects the problem of the entire working class, as prices mount. On March 1st Ottawa reported that butter will rise 8 to 10 cents a pound on May 1. Two days later, the WPTB granted a three to four cent increase on most cuts of beef. At

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lords to place tenants on a monthly lease. Last month in preparation for the killing, landlords sent notices to their tenants that they would henceforth be renting on a month to month basis.

Real-estate sales steadily rise, as March 31, the end of the designated rent control period, approaches. Large blocks of apartments and homes are being bought up at colossal figures by wealthy speculators.

Should the rental increases go through, hundreds of thousands of workers will be at the mercy of the ruthless real-estate sharks. It has been estimated that there is already a surplus of over 300,000

(Continued on page 3)

10% Rent-Hike Still Threat Parliament Debate Shows

(Continued from page 1)

renting families who are searching for quarters but have been compelled to double up with friends and relatives in cramped and unhealthy quarters. For these 300,000 families there were only 15,000 new rental units built in 1946.

MILITANT PROTEST

Fearful of the rent rise, their standard of living already cut to the bone by inflationary wage cuts, and even now paying astronomical rentals, veteran residents of Wartime Housing Projects and workers organized in renters associations in Montreal, are being roused to militant protest.

The West End Consumers League representing residents in the Westmount-St. Antoine constituency held a mass meeting Feb. 28. It voted to circulate throughout the entire city a petition demanding that the King government desist from granting rent increases on dwellings at the present time. It also demands that rentals on dwellings erected since 1943 be sliced 25 per cent.

Veterans at the Wartime Housing Cote St. Paul Project are protesting the high cost of maintaining their small four room houses which they rent for $30 a month. In a detailed breakdown they reveal that they have to lay out $48.62 per month for maintenance which includes light, heat, etc. Last week the Catholic Workers League demanded that the government revise the National Housing Act so that "monthly payments would amount to the average monthly rental paid by workers ($20)".

The Montreal Tenants Association has made public a telegram it sent to Prime Minister King condemning the government's capitulation to landlord pressure and demanding that there be no raise in residential rents for at least 12 months.

The exposure of Ottawa's callous plans to hand apartment and house renters over to the tender mercies of the rent gougers has not brought the slightest sign of retreat. On the contrary the (Liberal) **Montreal Star** speculates "that the sudden turn of events in the House of Commons may result in the date being moved up."

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ABBOTT SCORNFUL

In reply to a meek request from a CCF M.P. that the government assure the House that there would be no further removal of controls without discussion and approval of parliament, Abott scornfully replied that "the removal of controls and the government's decontrol program are matters of government policy for which the government must take responsibility and they will be announced to the house in due course."

What can prevent the government from making these "adjustments" which will lift the whole lid off rent ceilings? What can prevent this staggering blow at the already dangerously depressed living standards and living conditions of the majority of the people of Canada?

ACTION NEEDED

Only militant mass action on the part of house, apartment and flat renters can forestall what will result in less food on the tables, countless evictions and even more overcrowding. Consumers' Leagues, ratepayers' and tenants' organizations, trade unions and veterans' organizations must join forces to stage mass protest rallies and demonstrations. Well planned, widespread rental strikes must be organized, the strikers protected from eviction by tenants' and union flying squads. Such a program can prevent the government agents of Big Business from dealing another devastating blow at our standard of living.

THE STALINIST BUREAUCRACY AND THE DEFENSE OF USSR

By ROSS DOWSON, National Secretary, RWP

To-day, 30 years after the revolution, the Soviet Union remains completely isolated in a capitalist world. American imperialism, ruthless, powerful and market-hungry, completely encircles her borders. Tailed by a howling pack of satellites and camp followers, U.S. imperialism is whipping up a savage anti-Soviet campaign World capitalism is hell-bent on wringing concessions from the Soviet ruling caste and eventually destroying the nationalized and planned economy won by the revolution.

Internally the USSR is suffering from a deep crisis which has only been tremendously sharpened and extended by the great havoc wrought on its economy by the Hitler war machine. There can be no question—the very existence of the USSR is imperilled.

Under these circumstances Comrade Fellows' remarks appearing in the March "Letters to the Editor" column seem to have great weight. Let us take the liberty of summing up his letter into two questions: Doesn't the RWP's denunciation of the present Soviet leaders and their government only play into the hands of our imperialist enemies, and by its attacks on the Soviet leadership doesn't the RWP negate its professed position of defense of the Soviet Union?

Since the Soviet Union is the product of the first successful proletarian revolution, and thus mankind's experience is extremely limited in this field, it is sometimes easier to approach these questions from an angle that is more familiar and much more easily understood.

What is the problem that confronts a class conscious worker in a trade union whose leadership and policy are conservative and, as in some cases, even corrupt? Is the genuine trade union militant the one who says don't criticize the leadership because the bosses will use this criticism for their own purposes? Or is he the worker who maintains that it is precisely the reactionary policy of the corrupt leadership that weakens the union and plays into the hands of the bosses?

When a genuine defender of trade unionism discovers corruption in the leadership of a union, he knows that he must launch an open and fearless attack against it. This is particularly true when the union is threatened or even locked in struggle with the employers, for the continued domination of the union by reactionary and corrupt leaders paralyzes the membership itself and endangers the union's very existence. Obviously to defend the union against its enemies requires the removal of the reactionary and corrupt leadership.

The leadership of course always attempts to identify itself with the union and tries to ward off its honest opponents by attempting to brand them as agents of the bosses but this does not restrain the union militant from his task.

In a broad sense a trade union is in power in the Soviet Union, a union with a bureaucratic and corrupt leadership. There is nothing sacred about this bureaucracy because it heads a Soviet Republic. On the contrary because the Soviet Union still represents to masses of the world working class the glorious October Revolution, revolutionists must not fear nor hesitate to expose the destruction of these great conquests at the hands of the bureaucracy.

The enemies of the Soviet Union are informed and much better informed about the Soviet State than its real friends, the workers of the world. The enemy can unfortunately take advantage of the weak side of the workers' state, but never of a criticism of those tendencies which they themselves consider its favorable features.

What use can the class enemy make of Stalin's strangling of working class democracy in the USSR—or the fact that there are vast and ever growing differences between the incomes and privileges of the workers and peasants and the bureaucracy? They can and do use these facts only to discredit the socialist objective itself in the eyes of the entire working class. Thus the exposure and revolutionary opposition to Stalin's crimes is inextricably bound up with the defense of the socialist perspective.

We Trotskyists distinguish between trade unionism and the trade union bureaucracy. Likewise do we distinguish between the Soviet Union and the Kremlin bureaucracy. The defense of the USSR to which we are pledged involves not the defense of the Stalin clique whose traitorous and criminal policies have led the Soviet Union to the brink of disaster.

We defend what remains of the October revolution. To do so requires an uncompromising struggle against the imperialist enemy and also the Stalin bureaucracy.

To defend the USSR as the main fortress of the world proletariat against all assaults of world imperialism and of internal counter-revolution is the most important duty of every class conscious worker; but its defense requires the blotting out of the Krelim oligarchy.

Red-Baiting Marks Cartier Campaign For Fred Rose Seat

By JEAN LA PLANTE

MONTREAL.—The Cartier by-election that has been declared to fill the seat formerly held by the imprisoned Stalinist ex-M.P. Fred Rose opened with a blast of red baiting.

The Montreal police authorities early in the campaign threatened that a renewed drive by the anti-subversive squad would soon get underway. They have divulged that their main weapon of attack will be enforcement of the notorious Duplessis Padlock Law. Police have already opened their campaign of intimidation against the LPP and the electorate by forcing their way into an election workers' meeting held in favor of the Stalinist candidate Councillor M. Buhay.

In order to whip up broader and more respectable red-baiting forces, various bourgeois fraternal and political groupings are rallying behind such groups as the newly-formed Anti-Communist League. Its president, Mayor Desy of Montreal North, denying that it has any political affiliations, has announced that the League plans to cooperate with government and religious authorities against communism.

FIVE CANDIDATES

Early in the campaign it appeared as if attempts to limit the fight between an official Liberal Party candidate and an LPP candidate would be successful. But the plums involved proved far too appetizing for the various capitalist political fakers, and there are already five candidates.

This by-election for the seat vacated by Fred Rose, former 100 per cent supporter of the King government and now its victim, may fall again to the Stalinists—this time to LPP Councillor M. Buhay. While the Stalinists are essentially not a force for the defense of the Soviet Union and the gains of the October revolution, but merely the apologists for the criminal Kremlin bureaucracy, a victory for Buhay would signalize a rejection on the part of the workers of the King government's anti-Soviet drive.

As the election campaign got under way, Maurice Hart, MLA for St. Louis and Ottawa back-stage strategists' choice for the seat, joined the chorus of red-baiters and draped himself in the tattered rag of "high national interest."

Disgruntled local Liberal politician Councillor David Rochon has set himself up as the representative of the Liberal electors in the district and is also in the race.

The ultra nationalistic, labor-hating Bloc Populaire has entered the twice previously defeated Paul Masse. He is being supported on the platform by the Jew-baiting quasi-fascist Union of Electors, the Quebec section of the Social Credit movement.

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10,000 At Rally Of Ceylon Trotskyists

By ROBERT GUNAWARDENA

COLOMBO, Ceylon, Jan. 27—Ten thousand workers gathered at Galle Face Green on Jan. 18 at the first mass rally of the Ceylonese Trotskyists since the unification of the Ceylon Unit of the Bolshevik Leninist Party of India with the Lanka Sama Samaja Party.

The rally itself was preceded by a huge demonstration in which more than 5,000 workers paraded the main streets of Colombo on their way to the meeting place. The slogans they shouted proclaimed their determination to smash the bourgeois-imperialist alliance, destroy the reactionary Soulbury Constitution, save the Indo-Chinese people from French imperialism, and not to load a single ship carrying arms, men or supplies to the French imperialists in Indo-China.

The purpose of the rally, besides being the first meeting to publicly announce the unification of the Trotskyist forces, was to announce the party's final election list and to inaugurate officially its election fund.

This was the opening of the second front — the parliamentary front — against the new slave constitution which the imperialists are attempting to force on the people of Ceylon through the agency of the native capitalists.

The party announced a list of 27 candidates for the parliamentary elections, contesting all seats in the city of Colombo and a fair number of seats in the up-country areas where the plantation proletariat is concentrated.

The party announced an election fund of 2½ lakhs of rupees to which it asked the public to contribute generously.

The following resolutions were also passed at the meeting:

1. "This mass meeting of the Lanka Sama Samaja Party declares its complete solidarity with the heroic people of Viet Nam in their armed struggle against the hired hordes of French imperialism and calls on the working class of Ceylon to demonstrate this solidarity by refusing to load a single ship bound for Indo-China carrying arms, men or supplies to the French imperialists."

2. "This mass meeting of the Lanka Sama Samaja Party condemns the reactionary proposal of the Board of Ministers to refuse recognition of trade unions of government workers and to accord them the status of mere associations, and warns the entire working class of Ceylon that this anti-working class measure, though directed in the first instance against the government workers, is a prelude to a determined onslaught on the entire body of the working class of Ceylon on the part of the British imperialists and their native agents. This meeting further calls on the workers of this country to fight this measure with all the resources at their command."

3. "This mass meeting of the Lanka Sama Samaja Party demands the immediate and unconditional release of Comrades Daniel Weerasena and Hemasiri Silva, the two remaining political prisoners in Ceylon."

Ceylon Trotskyist Party Runs Slate In General Election

Special to Labor Challenge

PARIS, Feb. 27.—The Continental Daily Mail today reports that preparations are being made by all parties in Ceylon to participate in the first general election under the new constitution. The elections are to a parliament which is to replace the old State Council.

The Daily Mail reports that the recently formed United Nationalist Party is expected to sweep the polls. "The Ceylon National Congress, the Sinhala Maha Sabha, the Ceylon Moslem League and a powerful and influential section of the Tamils have all joined the ranks of the United Nationalist Party. The Ceylon Communist Party (Stalinist) is also discussing whether it will join the United Nationalist Party.

OPPOSITION PARTIES

"If the Communists do decide to join, the opposition would consist of the Lanka Swaraj party, the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress, the Ceylon Indian Congress and the Trotskyists' Lanka Sama Samaja. The Sama Samajists have a good following among the workers and are preparing their list of candidates for the election."

The Lanka Sama Samaja is the recently unified section of the Bolshevik Leninist Party of India and Ceylon.

Edmond Samarakkody has been chosen as Sama Samajist candidate against the leader of the United Nationalist Party, D. S. Senanayake. In all the Lanka Sama Samaja is running 40 candidates in the elections.

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WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

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Vicious Anti-Labor Bill of Duplessis Government Would Cripple Trade Unions In Quebec Province

By Jean LaPlante

The Federal government is holding its fire in the anti-labor legislative drive until after the Easter recess, but Quebec's Maurice Duplessis is already lining up his heavy artillery for a murderous barrage against the trade unions. Duplessis has just submitted a draft bill to the Superior Labor Council . . . a stooge advisory committee composed of representatives of the bosses and a minority of "safe" labor leaders.

According to reliable information this bill is expected to come before the Legislature shortly. It contains a series of anti-labor provisions designed to completely destroy the trade unions as effective instruments of struggle against wage cuts, rotten working conditions and longer hours.

STALLS WORKERS

If Duplessis' smash-the-unions legislation is passed, strikes will be declared illegal during the lifetime of any agreement. The bosses will have plenty of opportunity to whittle away at the union contract and undermine union conditions. But the workers will not be able to strike in protest, they will be compelled to work through an arbitration board. This board, well padded with bosses' men, will hand down decisions that are both final and binding upon the union.

When the life of an agreement has been terminated and the workers have cooled their heels for weeks and possibly months in government offices and wearily gone through the entire arbitration stall, then, and only then, will they have the nominal right to strike. But prior to any action a strike vote must then be held.

This vote is to be under the complete supervision of the corrupt boss-loving political machine of the Union Nationale Government. If the spirit of the workers is not yet broken and the government announces a yes decision on the strike vote, the workers would still be compelled to wait another 14 days before walking off the job.

But the Quebec government is not content with only plotting this staggering blow at one of the few genuine rights that the worker still possesses, the right to withhold his labor if he so desires, the right to strike. It is bent on transforming the trade union movement itself into an organ of the capitalist state a la Mussolini.

According to another section of the proposed anti-labor law any union organizer or official who breaks the above regulations or is engaged in any activity which is illegal under the penal code, will be refused the right by law to function at his post. In other words all trade union officials and representatives in the province of Quebec will be required to obtain a permit from the boss-controlled government to exercise their duties.

WOULD BAR OFFICERS

Failure to abide by all details of the law would be met with suspension by the Labor Relations Board for a period determined by the board during which time he could not negotiate, hold office in a union or participate in or conduct any union activities.

If this law is pushed through all trade union functionaries will be required to go through a government screening process. A hand picked commission composed of bosses, boss-stooges, and police agents will grill all trade union leaders. There can be no doubt that only the most docile company-minded trade union bureaucrat would get through the screen with the Duplessis stamp of approval running down his back.

Through the passage of this bill Duplessis hopes to destroy the trade unions as democratic organs of the working class. Duplessis hopes to saddle the French Canadian working class with a collection of servile flunkeys completely beyond the control or influence of the trade union rank and file.

Jean Marie Bedard, Regional Director of the Canadian Congress of Labor, launched a powerful attack against the government plans to hamstring the labor movement. At a meeting sponsored by the Quebec Committee for the Defense of Trade Union Rights, he called for militant united action by both the CCL and AFL to smash Duplessis' plans.

...The United Textile Workers of America (AFL) held an emergency conference on March 23 which was attended by 100 delegates representing 7,000 members in the province. The delegates called for an emergency conference of all affiliates in the province to lay plans to protect the trade unions from Duplessis's assault.

Landlords Demanding Big Rent Boost

The landlords and real estate sharks are pushing their campaign to gouge the Canadian workers by raising rents far above today's extortionate level. On March 25, a delegation representing landlords throughout Canada called on Finance Minister Abbott and presented a lengthy brief urging that rentals and eviction controls be eased.

According to a CP despatch, W. J. LeClair, president of the Canadian Federation of Property Owners' Associations, said the minister received the delegation in a "very friendly" manner and promised consideration of its proposals.

"Mr. Abbott made no commi ments," he said, "but said he wa faced with a decision on the prol lem very shortly and that the brie came at an opportune time."

The "opportune time" from th capitalists' point of view, is a tim when workers are caught in th most acute housing shortage th country has ever known. Abbot is eager to enrich the profiteers b taking advantage of the workers inability to move from their dwell ings, no matter how high the rent.

Only mass protests can halt thi dangerous threat to the living stan dards of the Canadian people.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party — Canadian Section, Fourth International

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Budenz Exposé and 'Great Conspiracy'

—(SEE PAGE THREE)

ANTI-LABOR BILL PASSES IN B.C.

Rents Up, Controls Slashed

Ceilings Removed From Third of Commodities

Hacking at the workers' living standards from all sides, Canadian profiteers are making good on their February threat to drive Canadian prices up to U.S. heights.

On April 7, a 10 percent rent boost was announced, with increases as high as 20 per cent for tenants who sublet three or more rooms, thus throwing an even heavier burden on workers forced to double up and share their living quarters.

On April 2, controls were removed from thousands of everyday necessities, including food items, woolen clothing, shoes, fuel, and household equipment. Delegates of over 100,000 hard-pressed housewives who bitterly protested the decontrol program in the House of Commons at Ottawa, were scornfully brushed aside by the capitalist politicians.

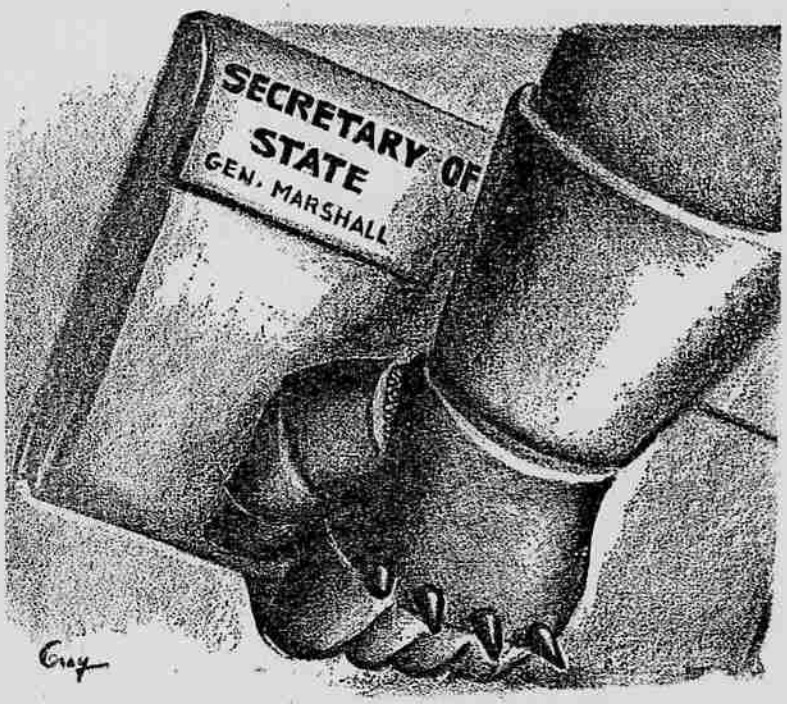
The staggering list of items released from all ceilings includes turkeys, ducks, geese, many canned and cooked meats, fresh eggs, frozen eggs, powdered eggs, a wide range of canned foods, candy, soft drinks; all footwear; coats, suits, dresses, sweaters, blankets, underwear and other woolens; coke, coal, charcoal, fuel wood; all stoves, refrigerators, washing machines, sewing machines; all chemicals and plastics; all plumbing and sanitary equipment; a host of building materials; paper and paper products. Together they totaled a third of the commodities under control.

"Those left", said the Toronto Star in a special dispatch from Ottawa, "will be lifted singly and in small groups."

The decontrol order followed a whole series of increases in the ceiling prices of other foods and necessities, including sugar, cheese, etc. A 10-cent butter price rise is imminent. Price ceilings, as everyone knows are raised at every plea of the profiteers.

After this gift to the profiteers, who even at previous prices were raking in the biggest loot in their history, Ottawa prepared handouts

Wall Street's Diplomacy



1250 New Readers in 3 Months Is Goal in Labor Challenge Drive

→SEE NEXT PAGE

04-15-1

Provinces Backing Up Dominion Drive To Outlaw Strikes, Hamstring Unions

BY R. BULLOCK
(Special to Labor Challenge)

VANCOUVER, April 4—In the dying moments of this session, the British Columbia legislature shoved through Bill 39, the most far-reaching anti-labor law yet enacted on the North American continent. It closely parallels the proposed national legislation, and sets a dangerous pattern for the union-busting bills now being cooked up in other provinces.

This law, hastily passed despite the protests of the Vancouver CCL and AFL, provides for direct government intervention in the affairs of every union in British Columbia. The provincial Minister of Labor is hereafter to enforce a "secret ballot under government supervision" for every proposed strike vote.

A long, involved process of compulsory arbitration is to be set up for the purpose of delaying strike action. The Lieutenant-Governor in Council has the right to appoint arbitrarily, without the consent of even the legislature, anyone whom he may choose to serve on a Labor Relations Board. It is a foregone conclusion that he will pick corporation stooges.

This Board is to have the widest power to "determine its own procedure", and make recommendations binding upon the trade unions during the life of any contract. If it considers it advisable to do so, the Board can also "reconsider any decision or order made by it under this Act, and may vary or revoke any such decision or order." Thus it is not bound even by its own decisions. It can, to better serve the interests of the bosses, keep the unions in a continual state of ferment and uncertainty.

LONG RIGAMAROLE

This hand-picked, all powerful Board is to be the final knot in the red tape binding the labor movement. Before a dispute on wages, working conditions, or another matter reaches the Board, it must first have gone through a complicated rigamarole.

The preliminary step will be "a ponder the issues. If at the end of that time he produces an unacceptable recommendation, he can finally call in the whole Board to think it over some more.

If the union, after this long runaround rejects the Conciliation Board's decision, and if it has no contract already in existence, it can then vote to strike. But its members must wait still another two weeks before walking out—giving the boss ample time to prepare his strikebreaking manoeuvers.

Other provisions of Bill 39 make it virtually illegal to organize an unorganized shop, by prohibiting every worker from talking union

Labor Unity Makes Duplessis Retreat

(Special To Labor Challenge)

MONTREAL, Apr. 6—The threat of unified protest action by the leadership of the Trades and Labor Congress (AFL), the Canadian Congress of Labor (CIO), and the Catholic Syndicates has forced the Duplessis regime to retreat in its anti-labor drive.

Yesterday Maurice Duplessis, Union Nationale premier of Quebec, publicly announced that there would be no change in the labor laws here in the next year.

The provincial government had planned to pass its union-busting act shortly after the Easter recess. Now a commission is to be set up to hear briefs from interested parties and submit a report before the 1948 session of the legislature.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

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Mid-April 1947

Page 2

1250 New Readers in 3 Months Is Goal in Labor Challenge Drive

By JOE ROSE

With this issue of LABOR CHALLENGE, we fire the opening gun in a campaign to secure 1,250 new subscribers within the next three months. From April 15th. to July 15th., members of the Revolutionary Workers Party will visit workers in their own and nearby cities, to acquaint them with the program of **Labor Challenge**, and invite them to read it for six months at the special reduced rate of 25 cents for 12 issues.

This is an ambitious undertaking for the RWP, which was founded only seven months ago. But it is a necessary and realizable task. **Labor Challenge** is the only paper in Canada which provides the revolutionary socialist answer to the problems of the working people, and upon its increasing circulation depends the growth and influence of its program.

Labor Challenge has become known for its militant defense of the working class. It calls for the sliding scale of wages to protect the workers' standard of living against the profiteers. It was the first to raise the alarm when Ottawa plotted its union busting legislation. It consistently gives a Marxist analysis of domestic and foreign news, the only reliable guide to an understanding of capitilist depressions and wars.

Now more than ever, as prices soar, as the unions are threatened, and as the danger of World War III looms more and more ominously, the Canadian workers are looking for the explanations and answers which **Labor Challenge** provides,.

The special trial subscription rate has been set at only 25 cents, to make it possible for everyone to subscribe. We know from our previous campaign when nearly a thousand subscribers were secured, that the devoted friends of **Labor Challenge** will succeed in their task. Rallies to visit workers' neighborhoods door-to-door, plans to sell subscriptions to shopmates, on the campuses, etc. are already under way.

Branches of the RWP have accepted the following quotas, to guarantee that the voice of revolutionary socialism will be heard further than ever in their cities:

Toronto	750
Vancouver	300
Montreal	75
Windsor	50
Prairies	50
Prince Rupert	25
Total	1250

All readers and friends of **Labor Challenge** are urged to help us meet, and if possible exceed, this goal, by sending in subscriptions for their own friends and fellow workers. Everyone is eligible for the prize which will be awarded to the highest scorer—a copy of the rare book, "Problems of the Chinese Revolution," by Leon Trotsky.

This book has been out of print for many years and is a noteworthy reward for the comrade or friend who does the most in helping to circulate the message of Trotskyism in Canada today.

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WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

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U.S. TROTSKYISTS PUBLISH STATEMENT ON UNIFICATION

(From "The Militant")

(An important step toward the unification of Trotskyist forces has just taken place in the United States. As a result of recent discussions between the Socialist Workers Party, and the Workers Party which split from it in 1940, *an agreement has been reached on the principle of unifying the two parties. The following statement was released simultaneously by the Socialist Workers Party in THE MILITANT, and by the Workers Party in LABOR ACTION.—Ed.)*

* * *

In 1940 an internal struggle in the Socialist Workers Party resulted in a split, the minority forming the Workers Party as an independent organization. The split has continued up to the present time.

Attempts made in recent times to find a basis for the unification of the two parties satisfactory to both sides, given the existence of the recognized disagreements on a number of important questions, did not meet with success and the discussions of the project were discontinued.

In recent days the question was opened again. New discussions between the leading committees of the two organizations have taken place. On February 10, the National Committee of the WP presented a written declaration in favor of unification. In this declaration the National Committee of the WP obligated itself to accept the decision of an Extraordinary Party Convention projected for the coming fall.

This obligation was undertaken with the understanding that the WP, like the SWP, would have the right to participate in the pre-convention discussion and to be represented at the EPC with full rights and in proportion to its numerical strength; and that fusion of the two organizations into a united party would be achieved. On this basis, the WP pledged itself to abide by the discipline of the united party, politically as well as organizationally, even if the EPC should adopt decisions which would place the members of the WP in the position of a minority.

The plenum of the National Committee of the SWP, meeting in New York, February 15-16, accepted this declaration as providing a realistic basis for unity and unanimously voted in favor of unification on this basis. In view of the WP declaration, the WP on its part agreed that the WP should have the right to participate in the preparatory discussion of the EPC in a special discussion bulletin which will be distributed to the members of both parties. This discussion is to be completed in the branches of the separate organizations before the formal unification.

As to the specific forms of the proposed unification, it has been agreed by both sides that the members of the WP and the SWP, as of February 10, 1947, as well as all those recruited by each party subsequent to that date, shall be admitted into the ranks of the united party as a body, without prejudice or discrimination. However, while the unity negotiations are in progress, neither party will admit into its ranks any individuals or groups who are now or who have formerly been members of the other party, except by agreement. During the same period it is agreed that no exclusive measures will be taken by either party against any members or groups in its ranks in disciplinary cases arising out of the discussion on unity without consultation with the other party.

On the basis of the agreements and conditions outlined above, the two National Committees are recommending the unification of the two parties. If this recommendation is approved by the membership of the two parties, as preliminary consultation indicates is most probable, the formal unification will take place as soon as the discussion now proceeding in the ranks of the two organizations is concluded. In the meantime a joint committee of the two organizations has been established, which is empowered to organize and arrange a program of cooperation and joint activities of the two parties in all possible fields of the class struggle, designed to lead up to and prepare the way for the formal unification.

James P. Cannon,
For the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party.

Max Schachtman,
For the National Committee of the Workers Party.

New York, Mar. 11, 1947

04-15-3

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WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Mid-April, 1947 (36)

04-15-4

Withdraw the Troops!

Manifesto of the Austrian Trotskyists

To all sections of the Fourth International!
To all sympathetic groups and organizations!
To the workers of all lands!

More than a year and a half has elapsed since the collapse of the Nazi regime in Austria and Germany; but these two countries, especially Germany, continue to be occupied by the "Allied" powers. The main weight of this occupation falls upon the laboring masses and above all on the proletariat.

The International Communists of Austria (IKA) as before carry on the struggle for the withdrawal of all the troops of occupation, not in a limited nationalist spirit, not in patriotic and chauvinist spirit adapted to their own bourgeoisie as do the Socialist Party, and more hypocritically, the Stalinist Party. On the contrary, the Internationalist Communists of Austria have never ceased to demonstrate that the occupation can only reinforce the chauvinist and fascist tendencies.

The International Communists of Austria have always affirmed with insistence that the occupying soldiers are their brothers, that they are workers of the U. S., of England, of France and of the Soviet Union. They have led, are leading and will lead the struggle for the withdrawal of the troops in the spirit of **proletarian internationalism, of the united struggle against their exploiters and oppressors and against the degenerate Soviet bureaucracy.**

Our struggle for withdrawal of all occupation troops, as with the struggle of the proletariat of other occupied countries and particularly that of the German proletariat, with which we feel fraternally united, is nothing but the struggle against the attacks upon the democratic right of self-determination of each nation, the struggle for effective utilization of the democratic rights by the oppressed masses against their own bourgeoisie, as part of our struggle for the democratic rights of the masses, for the free development of the proletarian class struggle.

To lead this struggle in an internationalist spirit means first of all that the proletriat of the occupying countries has the task of raising its voice against its own oppressors in order to obtain the withdrawal of their occupation troops. No people can be really free if it oppresses another people, if it does not prevent its own oppressors from suppressing other peoples.

In consequence, the Internationalist Communists of Austria address an urgent appeal to the proletariat of America, Britain and France to help the Austrian, and especially the German working class of which the Austrian proletariat will always be a part; to give effective support in the struggle for the withdrawal of the troops.

It addresses its appeal first of all to the sections of the Fourth International that they should call the attention of the proletariat in their countries to the prolonged occupation and the need to struggle for the immediate withdrawal of the occupying troops; that the occupation violates the democratic right of self-determination and that it prevents the free development of the proletarian class struggle.

The International Communists of Austria are convinced that the Bolshevik-Leninists of the USSR and the Russian proletariat, to the degree that the conditions of the bureaucratic dictatorship permit, will raise their voice in support of the withdrawal of all Soviet troops from occupied countries, as the only means of exposing the imperialist oppressors before the masses, to reestablish the general sympathy of the workers for the USSR. By this the USSR would show the road for the end of occupation, permitting the free development of the proletarian struggle.

Finally the Internationalist Communists call upon the workers of all countries to remain on the side of the Austrian and German proletariat, and of the proletariat of all occupied countries, in their struggle for self-determination, in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, in the spirit of the war cry of the Communist Manifesto:

WORKERS OF ALL LANDS UNITE!

Internationalist Communists,
Austrian Section.
Fourth International
Mid-December, 1946.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE (36) Mid-April 1947
04-15-5

HOW SULLIVANS ARE MADE

By Ross Dowson, National Secretary, RWP

J. A. (Pat) Sullivan's sell out to the shipowners and his red-baiting attack on his former bedmates, the Stalinists, provoked a blast of impotent indignation from the Labor-Progressive Party leadership.

J. B. Salsberg, LPP (Stalinist) trade union policy man, launched the familiar smear campaign. According to Salsberg, Sullivan ratted just prior to being informed that "because he had not changed we (the (LPP) would dissociate ourselves from him". Why? "Because", according to Salsberg, "of his heavy drinking and neglect of duties".

We Trotskyists of course have no interest in rushing to the defense of stool-pigeon Sullivan's moral character. Probably everything that his former friends say of him is true. After all the Stalinists should know better than anyone else, the sordid details of Sullivan's degeneracy. For more than 10 years he was one of their leading agents in the trade union movement.

But of course all this palaver about his excessive drinking, even his neglect of duty explains nothing.

WHAT HAPPENED?

What happened to this worker who in 1934 commenced the arduous task of organizing the Great Lakes seamen, that fourteen years later he should end up in the arms of the shipowners?

His degeneration although climaxed by a complete capitulation to the bosses was a gradual one. It commenced the day that he came under the poisonous influence of what was then called the Communist Party, which was no longer communist but already irrevocably Stalinized. Henceforth Sullivan became the chief propagandist in the ranks of the Canadian Seamen's Union for the bureaucratic clique that sits behind the Kremlin Walls.

It is probable that Sullivan, who joined the CP in the thirties, did so in the belief that it was the Canadian party of the October Revolution. This is not necessarily so of course as the C.P had already been jingoistic for some period. But Sullivan was a worker and a trade union activist so we can assume the former to be the case

The C.P. had already been purged of its most conscious revolutionists in the person of Maurice Spector. its chief theoretician, Jack MacDonald its organizer and national secretary and their followers. Salsberg, Smith and Buck had obeyed the order from the Kremlin and done the hatchet work on the Trotskyists.

Perhaps the machinist Buck, who subsequently went to jail when the C.P. was declared illegal by "iron heel" Bennett, did not understand the full implications of his role at the time. But if Buck or Smith had any doubts at any time as to the correctness of their actions these doubts proved to be very shallow.

As the Stalin bureaucracy moved further along the path to become a conscious opponent of the gains of the Russian Revolution, its demands on the C.P. leadership came increasingly in opposition with the fundamental interests of the Canadian workers. The leadership was called upon to deny today what it had proclaimed yesterday and drag Marxism in the dust.

SORTING-OUT

At the order of the Kremlin, Smith proclaimed the CCF to be social-fascist. The call went out for a crusade against the so-called "war loving" nations and for unity not only with the CCF but the "progressive" capitalists, and Buck piped the tune. The Stalin-Hitler pact was sealed and the chorus changed tune. Hitler invaded the USSR and the whole pack that had been imprisoned by King became his chief apologist, toured the country for a Liberal Party government and propagated the no-strike pledge and worker-management committees. With every twist and turn a vast sorting out tok place in the rank and file and the leadership.

It continues to take place in the ranks of the party but no longer in its top leadership. Hundreds of workers disoriented and disillusioned, the best elements, broke and will continue to break to carry on the task to which they had first dedicated their lives—to build the revolutionary party—the RWP.

The Bucks and the Salsbergs created Sullivan in their own image. In the LPP all that was demanded of Sullivan and the entire leadership was undying loyalty, absolute sevility to the Stalin bureaucracy and implacable hatred for the real communists, the Trotskyists. Sullivan, a product of Stalinism, has only changed masters.

WORKERS OF THE

LABOR CH

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party

Vol. III, No. 8 (37) (MAY 1947) TORONTO, MA

05-01-1a

Only Road for Labor On May Day, 1947

Manifesto of RWP

Throughout the world, on May Day 1947, the advanced workers will hail the international solidarity of their class. As new war clouds darken the horizon, the exploited and oppressed in all lands will come together in celebration of this greatest of working class holidays as they have for 61 years.

Everywhere the working people are demonstrating their great power. Despite illusions and decimation by the second imperialist slaughter in a quarter of a century, despite the fact that they are shackled by a conservative trade union leadership or betrayed again and again by the perfidious Social Democratic or Stalinist misleaders, the masses continue to fight for socialist peace, prosperity and freedom. The unconquerable will to struggle of the workers remains the only progressive force in society. On the outcome of this struggle depends the fate of all mankind—Forward to socialism or atomic destruction!

A whole new epoch of revolutionary battles has opened up. The colonial slaves of the great imperialist powers are in open revolt. In Indo-China and Indonesia full scale war rages against the French and Dutch masters. Great Britain and the United States back France and Holland, hoping to confine the conflict and to take over the positions of their weaker allies. But in their own colonial possessions they are confronted with growing opposition. Britain has had to make retreats in India. In Burma, Palestine and the Arab countries her power is being shaken.

In Europe, the first postwar wave of revolution has been temporarily crushed by the imperialist victors of World War II along with their counter-revolutionary ally in the Kremlin. The continent has been divided into two separate spheres of economic, military and diplomatic influence. Puppet regimes in both eastern and western zones rest on either the bayonets or the supplies of the conquerors or a combination of both. But even with the support of the imperialists or the Stalinist bureaucracy, the capitalists in occupied Europe can continue to rule only because of the support of the Social Democrats and the Stalinist Communist Parties.

Germany, the industrial heart of Europe, is gutted by war and dismembered by the Allies. While the Big Four scheme to fasten on the German people a new robber peace ten times worse than that of Versailles tens of thousands of German coal miners demonstrate and strike for bread. In Italy the Stalinists continue to betray the workers by voting for the Lateran Treaty, thus allying themselves with the Vatican, ideological center of world reaction. Today above all, the workers must hold out the hand of fraternity and solidarity to the doubly oppressed people of Germany and Italy!

The victor imperialist countries of Europe, England and France, have become third and fourth rate powers. Their empires are slipping away; the workers have lost confidence in the ability of the old ruling classes to rule.

French troops can only be sent to Indo-China to butcher the heroic fighters of Viet Nam by the votes of Stalinist ministers. A British conscript army to do a similar job in the colonies can only be raised by a "Labor Government." The struggles of the French workers for higher wages to compensate for price rises can be checked or the British miners can be speeded-up, only by a labor bureaucracy subservient to capitalism.

Even with the aid of a continuous stream of supplies and dollars from the United States and Canada, the capitalist financial experts foresee only ruin and bankruptcy for European capitalism. It is only on the American continent, in the United States and Canada, that the bourgeoisie still shows signs of strength. But the moguls of Wall Street and their junior partners of St. James and Bay Streets only appear powerful. Last year's mighty strike wave showed only a fraction of the great strength of the industrial workers of the continent, whose power is immeasurably greater.

War Danger Is Real!

Sole victor of World War II, American imperialism, of which Canadian capitalism is an integral part, promised the peoples the Four Freedoms. Today its armies march on every continent and its navy and airforce rule the sea and skies. Its weight is felt in every country of the world which it plans to exploit as its private preserve.

The whole capitalist and colonial world is not big enough to supply the materials, absorb the surplus goods and capital, i.e. to satisfy the greed for profit, of the American masters. They covet another sixth of the world, the Soviet Union, for a colony.

It is to open up this area for their profits that they have unleashed a furious propaganda offensive to prepare public opinion for war. The United Nations is only one of the instruments they use to conduct the "war of nerves" against the USSR. Outside the sphere of this new edition of "the thieves kitchen" League of Nations, is the recent secret military alliance with Canada and Britain. Through this pact they are standardizing weapons and building bases in the Canadian North.

The "Truman Doctrine," unashamed and naked imperialist militarism, is the banner under which they move to crush the Greek freedom fighters, bolster the hated Greek monarchy and the Turkish dictatorship. The United Nations, which they boasted was to preserve peace, is ignored as the circle of steel is closed around the Soviet Union.

The danger of war is real. Only the international solidarity of the oppressed can stave it off! Only the victory of socialism can wipe out the threat of humanity's destruction that war today means!

On all continents, in Europe and Asia, Africa and South America, the sections of the Fourth International are teaching the workers how to fight against the imperialist war danger. Braving persecution and calumny, they are grouping the advanced workers in every important country around the program of Trotskyism. The parties of the Fourth International summon the workers to organize their forces, wrench the power from the capitalist cliques, and take their destiny into their own hands. This is the only road to salvation for the world working class.

Stalin's boundless crimes against the Soviet peoples, against the peoples in the states occupied by the Red Army, and against the world working class, aid the imperialists in their evil schemes. To save the remaining conquests of the Russian Revolution, it is imperative to conduct relentless political struggle against Stalinism and all its agencies and thus prepare the revolutionary overthrow of the bestial Kremlin oligarchy, the restoration of Soviet democracy and the revolutionary program of Lenin and Trotsky.

At the same time it is the duty of every class conscious worker to defend the USSR against the threats and the planned onslaught of the Anglo-American imperialists upon the Soviet Union. This defence can be conducted in only one

(Continued on page 4)

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LABOR CHALLENGE

A twice-monthly paper bringing the truth about labor's struggle for socialism to the working people of Canada.

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"The historical task of our epoch consists in replacing the uncontrolled play of the market by reasonable planning, in disciplining the forces of production, compelling them to work together in harmony and obediently serve the needs of mankind."

—*Leon Trotsky.*

Only Road for Labor

(Continued from page 1)

way, in the spirit of revolutionary socialist internationalism.

Here in Canada, the capitalist class have been enjoying an unprecedented period of prosperity. Every year for the last eight years they have wrung continually mounting profits from the blood and toil of the masses. By tying themselves to American imperialism, they hope to share in its dream of world conquest.

The working people are assigned the role of obedient drudges at home and cannon fodder abroad. Big Business' program can bring neither peace, well-being nor security to the Canadian people. On the contrary, in order to realize their aims, St. James and Bay Streets are compelled to attack the liberties and living standards of the working people.

Last summer the workers smashed the first phase of the boss offensive against their unions and standard of living. In the biggest and most militant wave of strikes in Canadian history, the drive to turn the veterans against the unions and make the workers pay the whole share of war suffered a temporary setback.

But already the second phase of the attack is unfolding. Rapidly rising prices have more than wiped out last year's wage gains. Anti-labor laws attacking the right to strike and organize are before every capitalist legislative body; and the first one has been passed in British Columbia. Side by side with the laws to limit the powers of the workers' organizations, goes a vicious red-baiting drive. Not only do the capitalists plan to housebreak the unions by legislation but to purge the labor movement of every radical and militant worker. To combat the union busting, wage slashing offensive of the corporations and their government, the workers need a program of militant struggle, under the slogan: *Against all anti-labor laws and government strikebreaking! No restriction on the right to strike and picket! No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!*

Inflationary price rises and rent increases are continuing. Profits and dividends set new records, as the real wages of the working people fall ever lower.

The workers need wage increases now. And at the same time that the unions launch the struggle for substantial pay increases, they must fight for a sliding scale of wages! Only when wages rise automatically with prices can the standard of living of the toilers be maintained.

For the profiteers the government cuts corporation taxes, while keeping the main burden of taxation to pay for the last war and the preparations for the next one on the backs of the underpaid. *Not one cent for war preparations! Use the money appropriated for the armed forces to build low rental workers' homes! Tax the rich, not the poor!*

Unemployment is growing. This is the unmistakable sign of the next depression which will soon hit Canada. It will be many times worse than that of the thirties—it is the cruel pay-off on all the wartime promises of the bosses. Only the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of socialism can bring any final solution to the problems of the people.

The fight against war, the fight for all the demands, all the needs of the workers, is the fight for socialism. But that fight requires that all the various demands be unified around a central thought: THE WORLD SOCIALIST REVOLUTION. The war has demonstrated, if we needed new proof, that this world is an indivisible whole which must be dealt with as a whole. No country can solve its problems alone, and no working class can do it alone. The workers require a WORLD PARTY OF THE SOCIALIST REVOLUTION.

The party that the workers need is NOT a Canadian counterpart of the European Social Democratic parties. There is no basic difference between the Attlees, Bevins and Leon Blums who prop up capitalism in Britain and France and the Coldwells, Millards and Lewises of the CCF. All are united in support of the capitalist oppressors of the colonial peoples and their preparations for World War III.

Nor can the Canadian workers for a moment imagine that the real fight against capitalism and war can be led by the Canadian Stalinists. The record shows that the Stalinists, organized in the Labor Progressive Party, were the most violent supporters of the last war and the Canadian capitalist class. The revolutionary struggle can not be waged, it can only be compromised and betrayed, by those who are under the bloodstained banner of the Kremlin.

The Canadian workers need a genuinely revolutionary program and a stainless banner. That is the program and banner of the PARTY OF THE WORLD SOCIALIST REVOLUTION, THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL, whose Canadian section is the REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS PARTY OF CANADA.

The outstanding lesson of history of the struggle of the workers in all countries is the necessity of a strong revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party for victory of the working class over capitalism. We of the RWP are building that party in Canada. We look to the future with confidence.

On May Day, a day dedicated to the international solidarity of the workers of the world, we appeal to the workers of Canada to support the program of the Fourth International, the only international of socialist struggle. We know that if you defend the rights of the working class and fight for its needs, you will conclude by joining with us and our comrades throughout the world—to put an end to this world of war and hunger and insecurity and build a new world of peace, security and freedom—the new world of Socialism!

"Free Trotskyist!" Say 100,000 Indian Strikers

By V. KARALASINGHAM

COLOMBO, Ceylon, Apr. 8—While Bombay and Calcutta and other cities in India are in the throes of communal clashes, the class struggle in Madras reached a new dramatic height today when over 100,000 workers downed tools in protest against the Congress Government's arrest and detention of Comrade Antonypillai, Trotskyist President of the Madras Labor Union. Comrade Antonypillai, who is a member of the Central Committee of the BLPI, is also a member of the General Council of the All-India Trade Union Congress.

Panic-stricken by the magnificent unity of 14,000 Buckingham and Carnatic Textile Mill workers who are on strike since March 11, and anxious to appease the European owners of the mills and to demonstrate to the imperialists the willingness of Congress to defend imperialist interests, the Congress Ministry sought to break the strike by arresting the President of the Union, Comrade Antonypillai.

On March 28 Comrade Antonypillai was arrested because he had, in the words of the government communique, "fomented an illegal strike, challenged the authority of the government and offended against the law requiring the immediate return to work of the strikers."

The Madras Minister, Congressman Ramassami Reddiar, followed this up with an appeal to the strikers to return to work. This was adding insult to injury. The infuriated strikers immediately set out to galvanize the other unions in the city to protest against the arrest of their strike leader. The Stalinists tried to sabotage this move by playing for time but were caught in the whirlwind of mass indignation. Unwillingly they were swept into the massive strike action.

Despite the frantic appeals of the Congress bosses, including the Prime Minister who made a special appeal over the radio, well over a lakh of workers (100,000) joined in the protest strike. The protest strike embraced the entire City Transport services, trams, buses, trains, haulage workers in the harbor, tannery workers, municipal and shop employes, MSM, Railway Workshop workers (Comrade Tony is also president of this union) and engineering workers.

Monday, March 31, the day of the General Strike, was quite reminiscent of the August 1942 days. Armed police at every ten yards. Gurkha troops and motorcycles with machine guns, armed trolleys, patrolling railway lines. This was the Congress answer to a protest of the masses.

The protest strike raised a hue and cry in the Congress press. The Conservative "Hindu" called for special legislation to illegalize strikes of this nature. There was not a single bourgeois paper in Madras that did not denounce the strike. This howling found a feeble echo across the Palk Strait, in Ceylon where the imperialist Times of Ceylon traced the source of all trouble to "the export of Ceylonese Bolsheviks to India!"

Despite the unmistakable mass protest of a one-day general strike, the Congress Ministry has so far not yet released Comrade Antonypillai. The strike of the textile workers still continues. The Madras Provincial Committee of the All-India Trade Union Congress has given notice to the government that if Comrade Antonypillai is not released, steps would be taken to organize a general strike in the whole of the Madras presidency. This will bring the government to its knees.

05_01-2

05-01-3

King Leads Dominion Drive Against Unions

By ROSS DOWSON

The Federal government is holding fire with its anti-labor law block-buster to drop it on the Canadian workers at the most favorable moment. The Federal government launched the drive for anti-labor legislation but, having laid down the line, it has settled back to watch the provincial governments do the spadework. It also expects to be able to ride in on the crest of the tidal wave that it hopes its brother labor-haters will be able to set in motion in Washington against the American working class. The B.C. coalition government passed, just a few weeks ago, Bill 39, the most far reaching anti-labor law yet enacted on the North American continent.

KING'S HAND

Ottawa's proposed anti-labor laws bear the unmistakable imprint of the hand of William Lyon Mackenzie King, who this year celebrates his twenty-first year as Prime Minister of Canada. King has devoted a life time of service to the defense of the ill-gotten gains of Canadian Big Business.

The capitalist press has painstakingly fostered the myth that King is a great humanitarian "born of the people"—a "friend of labor." It has been aided in this task by the most conservative elements in the trade-union movement who have fallen for the honey-covered words and the ingenuous manner of this man who has led the corrupt Liberal party machine for twenty-eight years.

The Stalinist Labor Progressive Party pictures this sinister boss politician as a "political innocent" susceptible equally to boss and labor pressure. On June 16, 1945, after having toured the country for a Liberal Party victory, Buck called for increasing pressure on King and warned that with his "precarious majority in the new House of Commons . . . there is every indication that King will move to the right."

The CCF M.P.'s who work overtime to give their program to the Tories and the Liberals have also helped King in fostering this pernicious myth by placing him above the political party which he has led for so long.

M. J. Coldwell had this to say in the house on August 7, 1944.: "We know that the contribution he (King) has made to this country throughout a very long public career will be remembered in future histories of our land . . . we hope he may be spared to give counsel and advice whatever the political circumstances of the future may be."

King and the boss press like to fondly recall that he is the grandson of the "little rebel" of 1837—William Lyon Mackenzie. They like to reminisce how Sir William Mullock, leader of the Laurier-Liberal machine discovered him and as the needs arose the modest and shy W. L. M. King advanced in government circles.

For those who find assurance in the fact that King is the grandson of the "little rebel" on his mother's side, we might note that his paternal grandfather fought in Her Majesty's troops against those who struggled for responsible government. Contrary to the official myth, King was born into the Liberal Party apparatus. His father, a newspaper editor and lawyer, was prominent in party circles.

King commenced his rise in the Liberal machine, which today he completely dominates, when he was appointed Canada's first Deputy Minister of Labor. From the period 1900-1908 King played the dirty role of government conciliator in the great labor battles of that period.

CAPITALIST SERVANT

In 1908 he took the post that strike-breaker Humphrey Mitchell now holds in the King government—Minister of Labor. King topped this period in his career as a loyal servant of Canadian capitalism and an avowed enemy of labor with the drafting of the notorious Industrial Disputes Act.

In the 1911 elections King lost his seat but in 1914 he found even more lush fields in which to put his knowledge of the labor movement to the service of the capitalists.

He went to the United States in the pay of the powerful and ruthless Rockefeller interests as Director of Industrial Research for the Rockefeller Foundation. It was while in the employment of this giant monopoly that King fathered the idea of "company unionism."

Not content with being a theoretician for the monopolists, King played the role of chief strategist for the Rockefeller-owned Colorado Fuel and Iron Company in that great strike struggle which has gone down in the pages of labor history as the Ludlow Massacre. King led the forces of the bosses in a bloody massacre that snuffed out the lives of a almost a hundred women and children whose husbands and sons were struggling against the barbarous oppression of the mine owners.

BLOODY WORK

King later had occasion to boast to the House of Commons that in tribute to his bloody handiwork at Ludlow he had received requests from Bethlehem Steel, General Electric and International Harvester "to make a study of their conditions with a view to advising them as to methods of forming joint boards between employers and employees."

As he has grown older and more experienced in the technique of deceit, strikebreaking, and political maneuver, King has become more cautious and more retiring, leaving the dirty work to the up and coming party men. But he continues to rule the powerful and corrupt Liberal machine with an iron hand.

The wartime wage freeze, the War Labor Boards and compulsory arbitration, the repressive Canada Defense Regulations all bear the King stamp of approval. The passage of the vicious Order in Council PC 1003 and the RCMP attacks on the Ford workers, the Stelco strikers and the seamen last year all received the OK of King.

Last year the CCL presented their annual brief to King and his ministers. No cap in hand affair but voicing the demands of 350,000 organized Canadian workers, it roused the anger of the Prime Minister, who broke off the interview with a sharp, "If you mean that—you and I part company."

King is no longer able to stall off the workers in their drive for higher wages and better conditions with honeyed words and pious platitudes. He is shedding the velvet glove and launching a powerful drive to cripple and smash the unions with vicious anti-labor laws.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(37) MAY, 1947

05-01-4

14th B.C. CCF CONVENTION SHOWS LEADERS' OPPORTUNISM

By PAUL KANE

VANCOUVER, April 14—The 14th annual convention of the British Columbia section of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation marked a new low for what is generally considered the most radical section in the country.

The pall that hung over all the sessions, the apathy and cynicism that permeated the discussions, reflected the absolute bankruptcy of the policies of the CCF's entire top leadership.

In the dying hours of the convention the re-elected president, Colin Cameron, was moved to express the feeling of impotence that haunts the leadership before the rush of complexities of world events. Cameron confessed: "I am perturbed at this convention. Something has happened to us. We have no controversy".

Cameron later revealed the fears that mount higher in the breasts of the CCF leaders the closer they approach power. He turned to Harold Winch, leader of the B.C. MPP's, and remarked: "I have great sympathy for Comrade Winch upon whom the shadow of the Premier's mantle has already fallen."

"Winch cracked back, "It's not a shadow, it's a light". But when the old age pensions were debated, Winch cynically cautioned against committing a future CCF government in B.C. to permanent bonuses for which finances would have to be found.

This year's convention sank further into the morass and muck of political opportunism and preparations for World War III. While the convention was in session Wall Street swung the world further down the path of war and destruction as it moved into Greece and Turkey to assert its domination.

Last year, despite a powerful opposition led by the revolutionary socialist wing, which subsequently joined the RWP, the leadership was able to tie the party to UNO, world agency of American imperialism. This year the leadership fiercely reasserted its support of the United Nations Organization, and even rejected a resolution which timidly opposed the Truman Doctrine "as usurping the authority of UNO".

The convention declined "to take sides" on Wall Street's preparations for war against the Soviet Union but in reality it went right down the line with Truman and King. No pretense was made of opposition to the coming war. The convention weakly appealed to the King government that "Canada through her delegates at UNO should express opposition to any unilateral move toward intervention by force in the affairs of any nation . . ."

But the CCF leadership was not content that it should be freed of all political ties requiring opposition to King's war preparations. Its treacherous betrayal of even the mildly pacifist Regina manifesto all during World War II stuck in the craw of several delegates. Distrustful of this same leadership they moved a resolution requesting that the CCF rank and file be queried on policy when war appears imminent.

Here the leadership defended its past treachery with tiger-like ferocity and demanded complete and utter freedom to go its own way. The final resolution passed by the convention, a sop to the opposition, calls for emergency sessions of the provincial leadership who would forward their decisions to the National Council. So much for the much vaunted democracy of the CCF.

What passes off among top circles of the CCF for "realistic politics" to justify the scrapping of every socialist principle is growing by leaps and bounds. A resolution demanding democratic rights in B.C. for Canadian citizens of Japanese origin and for native Indians was finally passed. But delegates hit the floor in op-

(Continued on page 3)

CCF Convention Held In B. C.

(Continued from page 1)

position claiming that "we stuck our necks out too far on this issue at the last election and lost seats by it" . . .

The opposition to the treacherous policies of the leadership was seldom vocal and failed to present any clear and consistent policy.

Winch was challenged for supporting the granting of a 20-year franchise to the B.C. Electric monopoly in Vancouver. One delegate complained that "the working class couldn't understand how a party committed to public ownership could support the franchise."

But when Winch justified his sell-out as a tactic in order at some future date to "bring in public ownership on a proper basis", his opponent weakly added that the Liberal-Tory coalition in Victoria "didn't need our support to pass the bill."

President Cameron pointed out that the B.C. CCF had got rid of certain "thorns in its side" and he wondered if it had not thereby discarded part of its soul. No doubt Cameron was referring to those workers who, united around the program of Trotskyism, broke last year from the CCF and helped to found the Revolutionary Workers Party.

Those workers in the CCF who want to struggle against capitalist war and barbarism and against the perfidious leadership of the CCF bureaucracy will find their weapon in the tested program of the Revolutionary Workers Party . . . and in its ranks they will find their place.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party — Canadian Section, Fourth International

TORONTO, MID-MAY, 1947 (38) — 23 — PRICE: 5 Cents

ANTI-LABOR DRIVE MOUNTING AS BILL GOES BEFORE HOUSE

Union-Busting Bill Okayed by Cabinet, Goes to House

(Continued From Page 1)

the government to housebreak labor, they have adopted a cowardly "ostrich" policy. They hope that Ottawa in reward for their passivity will let the unions get off a little lighter. Possibly they try to take comfort in the provision that the new law if passed will apply only to the national industries such as radio, shipping, railways and communications.

But this is a fatal illusion. Big Business is dead serious in its determination to castrate the labor movement. It will not be restrained in its drive by the cowardly policies of the trade union leadership or any narrow interpretation of the law. This law will be levelled at all unions as the need arises just as P.C. 1003 was aimed at the Stelco workers.

Since the anti-labor drive was launched last January various provincial governments have prepared the ground for Ottawa. The Alberta government has passed restrictive regulations and is being followed up by Nova Scotia. In British Columbia the Hart coalition government has passed the most vicious anti-labor laws yet enacted in North America. Only in Quebec has the anti-labor drive been checked. Duplessis was forced to back down before the threat of united action by the Trades and Labor Congress, Canadian Congress of Labor, and Catholic Syndicates.

Last week the American workers in Detroit, Iowa, and New Jersey, demonstrated how to beat back the anti-labor drive. The Greater Flint Industrial Council's call for "a 24-hour General Strike throughout the United States" is the answer to Truman's preparations to soften up the workers for World War III. Only action of this character can smash the monopolists' attempt to crush the Canadian trade unions. It is necessary to act and to act now!

Vancouver Readers:

For further information about the Revolutionary Workers Party inquire from:

R. Bullock,
628 East 4th St.,
North Vancouver.

Cabinet Okays Substitute for P.C. 1003, Imposing Arbitration, Fines for Unions

By PAUL KANE

Many of the fundamental gains made by labor in decades of bitter struggle are in danger of being completly wiped out with one foul blow. The Federal government's long delayed anti-labor legislation has been finally approved by the cabinet. It is rumored that it will be presented to the House directly after the budget debate has been cleared away.

The federal government's anti-labor block-buster, prepared by Bay Street's experts, has been a top drawer secret since it was drafted last January. At that time "confidential" draft copies were sent to all provincial governments, Big Business, and the top leaders of the trade union movement for their approval. Since then there has been an almost complete blackout.

Some of the features of this proposed law designed to housebreak the unions were revealed however in the January 11 issue of **The Financial Post**, organ of the Canadian monopolists. The new bill is designed to replace the oppressive Order in Council P.C. 1003, the collective bargaining law for all war and national industries which ends when the government gives up its emergency wartime powers on May 15. But it not only continues all of P.C. 1003's worst anti-labor sections; it contains in addition even more restrictive and even more vicious anti-working class provisions.

The new labor code would hit at the effective policy of "No Contract, No Work," followed by the United Mine Workers in the United States and now taken up by the UMW in the Maritimes. It states that a union which was party to an agreement which has expired, shall not call a strike to enforce its demands but must continue to bargain.

And if the company is unable to break the spirit of the workers by delaying negotiations, militancy is to be cooled-off by the further delay of appointing a conciliation board. This board is to be allowed 14 days to bring in a report to the Minister of Labor.

When a union contract is up for renewal, the boss can stall on granting concessions, and attack the union by appealing to the Department of Labor to conduct a new vote to determine if the union has still a majority of his employees in its ranks.

The rest of the section on strikes and lockouts continues all the restrictive measures of P.C. 1003. Strikes during the term of the contract are illegal. Also to be banned are strikes by unions which have been certified but have not entered into negotiations.

FINES RAISED

Fines against unions and union officers for calling illegal strikes were rarely enforced under P.C. 1003. These fines have been raised to $250 for each day of such a strike, in the draft of the new labor code. Striking workers are to be fined $10 a day for participating in an illegal strike.

A new form of compulsory arbitration is included in the bill. It calls for the final word on discrimination grievances to be given by a Referee. He is to be chosen by Humphrey Mitchell's Department of Labor which will administer the new law, from among the reactionary roster of Supreme Court Justices.

Up until now, on the very eve of the bill's presentation to the house, the entire top trade union leadership has been passive. They have ignored this savage frontal attack launched against labor's hard fought gains. Terrified by the power and determination of

(Continued on page 2)

left col. ←

05_15-1

LABOR CHALLENGE

(38) Mid-May 1947 05-15-2

Stalinist Goons Attack Distributors of 'Labor Challenge' in Vancouver Parade

VANCOUVER, May 4—A Stalinist goon squad headed by Maurice Rush and Bruce Mickleburg, prominent leaders of the Stalinist Labor Progressive Party, viciously assaulted four members of the Vancouver branch of the Revolutionary Workers Party as they were distributing copies of **Labor Challenge** at a downtown intersection. This brutal attack took place shortly before the May Day parade formed up today, the scheduled May 1 parade having been postponed because of rain.

On this sunny afternoon workers were streaming up all the streets leading to the parade assembly point. RWP members and friends were quietly distributing copies of the May Day issue of **Labor Challenge** with its stirring message calling for working class unity on the basis of unremitting struggle against capitalism.

Suddenly this small group, separated by several streets from the main party of distributors, was pounced upon by 15 or 16 LPP thugs who attempted to wrench the papers from their hands.

For a few minutes the comrades absorbed a brutal slugging as they tried to hold fast to their papers; they were badly outnumbered by the Stalinist hoodlums. Their papers were eventually torn out of their grip and scattered in the street.

The **Labor Challenge** distributors battled their attackers who were attempting to prevent the workers of Vancouver from reading the program advanced by Labor Challenge. As numerous workers attracted by the struggle gathered around and began to voice their objections, the LPP thugs hurriedly withdrew down the street. As they scurried away one of the distributors scathingly denounced their vicious attack on democratic rights before the workers who were milling around the spot.

Rejoining the main party of distributors, the battered quartet aided in the distribution of a few thousand copies of the paper to participants in the parade and spectators along the route of march.

The Toronto branch of the RWP, excluded from the farical LPP controlled United May Day Conference which barred all who do not kowtow to its class collaborationist line, held a May Day rally at the Labor Lyceum.

LEFT JABS

Prosperity Unwanted

E. Lines, Chairman of the Universal Steel Co., speaking to a meeting of the Federation of British Industries, said that what the country needs is "a darn good slump." In his opinion, Britain is "suffering from too much security."

* * *

Can't Trust Nobody

N. L. Mathews, counsel for Christie, Brown and Co., wants 23 of the firm's 48 office workers declared "confidential" and therefore ineligible for membership in the AFL Office Workers' Union.

Among the workers he's especially anxious to bar from the union are switchboard operators who "might listen in on conversations between management and its counsel regarding union matters," and "employees with a knowledge of the company's financial position" who "could be useful to the union in negotiations."

Could it be he has a guilty conscience?

* * *

Abbott's Boon Proves A Bust

The **Financial Post** on the budget: "You could hear subdued yelps of joy as each man's (press representatives) pencil stopped in the table of income tax reductions at the spot nearest his own income. Later on it was possible to see members of Parliament on both sides of the House doing the same thing."

Letter to the editor, in the Toronto **Star**: "I'm tickled to death with Mr. Abbott's budget. If I work all year my income tax will be reduced $21. My rent has just been increased $60. Isn't it marvelous?"

* * *

It's Tough To Be Rich

At the annual shareholders meeting of the International Nickel Co., a shareholder said he was pleased to note that the president was able to get along on $195,200 a year and that apparently the cost of living hadn't hit too hard yet. But the president, R. C. Stanley, complained that after taxes, his remuneration is under $100,000 a year.

And that, of course, hardly keeps a man in good cigars!

* * *

Idealistic Like Hitler

Sub Drive Wins 334 New Readers in First 3 Weeks

By JOE ROSE

Since the last issue of *Labor Challenge* hit the press, there have been 231 more new subscriptions added toward our campaign goal of 1250. In the third week of our three month campaign, this brings the total to 334 subs or over 30 per cent of our quota.

The Vancouver branch of the Revolutionary Workers Party sent in 44 new subs, raising its total to 99. This splendid effort was the result of a special distribution and an organized rally in a working class district.

The Toronto branch last weekend added 41 subs to its total which now stands at 170. These too were the result of door-to-door visits in working class districts. One comrade obtained 10 subs on a single side of one short street. He told us, "I never even tried to sell the paper. It sold itself."

Another sub-getter remarked that "I just held the paper up and opened my mouth, but before I could go into my spiel he took the paper, saying, 'A labor paper! It's about time!'"

In a letter from Wisteon, B.C., containing two subs, a comrade wrote, "Sorry I haven't more just now, but I am rather busy at farm work, etc., for a while, but hope to make a good drive a bit later."

PACE-SETTERS

The race for the prize, Leon Trotsky's "Problems of the Chinese Revolution," looks like a close one. Setting the pace with 30 subs is Paul Kane, followed closely by Joe Rose with 27 subs. Both are in the Toronto branch.

Contesting for third place are Claude Patterson of Edmonton and Mary Wood of Toronto, both with 24 subs. But these comrades will have to work hard to hold their slim lead against the Vancouver contender!

The campaign is gaining momentum with excellent prospects. The best results thus far have come from organized rallies, and the best sub-getting method is to see more workers! We expect the totals to be way up by the time the June issue goes to press.

05-15-3

SCOREBOARD

Toronto	170
Vancouver	99
Prairies	36
B.C. (outside points)	25
Ontario	2
Quebec	2
Total	334

Montreal Readers

For further information about Labor Challenge and the Revolutionary Workers Party, write to:

Labor Challenge Publishing Association,
Box 1482,
Montreal, Que.

By THEODORE KOVALESKY

Workers' Forum

The **Workers' Forum** columns are open to the opinions of the readers of **Labor Challenge**. Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them as short as possible and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

WORKERS OF THE W(

LABOR CH

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party

Vol. III, No. 10 (39) TORONTO, JUNE, 1947

For Socialist United States of Europe

—(SEE PAGE THREE)

CCL Committee Fails to Coordinate New Wage Drive

By ROSS DOWSON

The Canadian Congress of Labor's Wage Coordinating Committee, re-formed only a few months ago, held its first meeting May 22, in Toronto. Pat Conroy, secretary-treasurer of the CCL and chairman of this body, which was the general strategy committee in last year's wage drive, was re-elected.

At the close of its sessions the Committee issued the following release: "The decision of the Congress unions to enter upon a general wage campaign was reached only after repeated warning on the effect of price increases on workers had been ignored by both government and business . . . Prices are continuing to rise, making constant inroads on living standards and at the same time profits have reached record peaks . . . increases are essential . . ."

NO DECISIONS

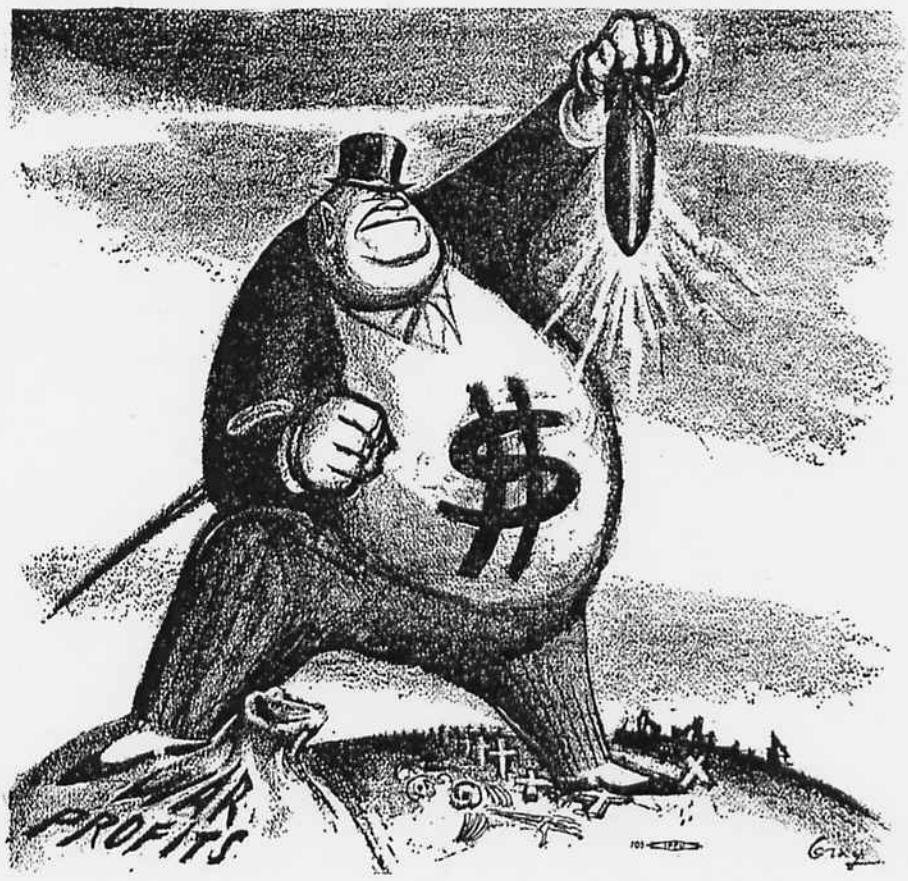
But that is all that the Wage Coordinating Committee, the strategy committee for the coming wage drive, had to say. There were no decisions on strike strategy. There were no plans laid for the unification of demands. There were no preparations for the coming wage struggles against the profit-hungry and power-drunk monopolists.

All that was asked of the some 1,100 local labor unions, labor councils and provincial labor federations affiliated to the CCL and joined together in the Wage Coordinating Committee, was agreement "to consult the committee before wage agreements are finalized."

The Wage Coordinating Committee was set up by the conservative trade union leadership only when several international unions and locals, goaded by monstrous inflationary wage cuts, had already launched their own campaign for wage increases. It was struck off only as a sop to the mounting pressure of the rank and file who know from experience that in order to make any substantial gains that there must be unity of action by labor against its powerful enemies. The only coordination that the cowardly trade union bureaucracy desires is around a projected national publicity campaign through the press and radio on prices, wages and profits. This was the main topic of discussion at the committee's sessions.

Certain sections of the trade union leaderhsip have already struck powerful blows against a

(Continued on Page 2)



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CCL WAGE COMMITTEE FAILS TO UNIFY DRIVE FOR INCREASES

(Continued from Page 1)

coordinated wage drive. Earlier this year both C. H. Millard, Canadian director of the United Steelworkers, and G. Burt, president of the United Automobile Workers, had announced that their unions would not go after wage increases.

It was only on May 15 that Millard intimated that the union might reverse its previous stand at its national policy committee meeting to be held a way on in the middle of July. To date the Steelworkers' leadership has limited its demands for wage increases to the small and scattered steel fabricating plants which did not participate in last year's wage battle and received no wage increases. Even since the Coordinating Committee was set up Millard has signed contract after contract for increases as low as 7 and 8 cents an hour.

The UAW leadership, after months of stalling, have finally presented G.M., Ford, and Chrysler with a demand for 15 cents. The Massey-Harris locals have finally announced that they are behind the 15 cent demand. The Stalinist-dominated United Electrical Workers' leadership have commenced negotiations in various plants but have timidly avoided even the formulation of a wage figure.

The United Packinghouse Workers, the International Woodworkers of America and the United Rubber Workers have launched a campaign for a 20-cent wage increase plus other demands. But their drive is weakened and already threatens to bog down in the face of the failure of the CCL to coordinate and unify their struggle.

What a contrast there is between this year's and last year's wage drive! Last year the bosses haughtily rejected all the demands of the workers, but vast gains were wrung from them by labor's tremendous hitting power and strength.

The West Coast Lumberworkers, 37,000 strong, have already commenced negotiations with the boss loggers. This year the bosses have again rejected the unions' demand but they have also dared to launch a powerful counter-offensive. This year they have informed the union that they are "unprepared to negotiate wages at this time" but would submit their proposals before June 20. In the meantime, backed up by the reactionary anti-labor Bill 39 passed by the B.C. coalition government, they have presented an ultimatum to the union demanding that it become a corporate body or that it post a $10 bond per member.

The wage drive is endangered. Those unions that have launched their demands are tremendously weakened by the general lack of scope of the drive and by the gap in their demands. The wage drive must be deepened to win increases for all the workers and its demands must be unified. It must be coordinated to take advantage of the full and overpowering strength of the workers.

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06-01-16

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TORONTO, JUNE, 1947 (39) — 28 — PRICE: 5 Cents

06-01-2a

Ottawa Sends Anti-Union Bill To Committee

By PAUL KANE

The government's anti-union drive has moved into high gear in the past two weeks. Latest reports are that the first reading of the new Industrial Relations and Disputes Investigation Bill will take place within the next week and that it will be submitted immediately to the parliamentary Committee on Industrial Relations for "debate and study."

This bill, which will replace the restrictive Industrial Disputes Investigation Act and the viciously anti-union wartime labor code, passed the resolution stage in the House of Commons on May 22. It is designed to consolidate all the restrictions and regulations that the government was able to impose on the labor movement during the war years and to impose new laws which will wipe out all the gains made by labor in years of costly struggle.

Ottawa continues to cloak its anti-labor plot with secrecy and has not yet even disclosed its final form. But information continues to leak out that reveals its furious and far-reaching character.

STOOGE BOARD

The proposed bill will permit the Labor Relations Board, composed of hand-picked stooges of the bosses, to add or exclude any member or members it desires from a union bargaining unit. Thus at the behest of the bosses the Board could purge from his elected office any trade union militant who is not susceptible to their pressure.

Labor department officials have frankly admitted that the proposed regulations would make the closed shop difficult if not impossible to maintain or achieve. Employers will no longer be required to discharge any employee because he belongs to a union other than the recognized bargaining agent.

The bill is designed to permit the boss to hire non-union and anti-union elements to weaken union ranks and foment inter-union jurisdictional warfare. It incites raiding tactics by permitting the Labor Relations Board to create two unions into a joint bargaining agent.

The entire trade union leadership has reacted in a cowardly and treacherous manner in the face of

(Continued on Page 2)

U.S. Unions Call For 24-Hour Strike Against Labor Bill

Important unions in the United States are demanding a 24-hour general strike to combat the labor-smashing bills cooked up by the Senate and House of Representatives. Both legislative bodies are reaching agreement on a "compromise" measure expected to incorporate the labor-crippling provisions of the original Senate bill.

A conference of five national CIO maritime unions in San Francisco endorsed the call for action issued by the CIO National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards. The resolution urged "the national CIO to organize a nationwide work stoppage or demonstration in cooperation with the AFL against these bills."

Among other union bodies advocating a national work stoppage are important CIO councils, in several vital auto, steel and railway centers, among them Greater Newark (N.J.); Chester (Pa.); Greater Flint (Mich.); Mahoning County (Ohio). A special sub-committee of the Cleveland CIO Council is considering the proposal.

A Labor Defense Committee composed of 23 AFL and 19 CIO unions has been organized in Flint to work out a program to fight anti-labor laws.

UAW Local 216 in Los Angeles and UAW New Departure Local 626 in Bristol, Conn., have also voted for the 24-hour strike.

LABOR CHALLENGE (39) June 1947

Govt's Union-Busting Bill Now in Committee's Hands

(Continued From Page 1)

the boss offensive. Their complete silence has been broken only by such weak-kneed comments as that made by the president of the Trades and Labor Congress (AFL). Bengough. After forecasting that certain sections of the bill "will lead to disatisfaction" amongst labor generally, he announced that the TCL would protest to the House of Commons Committee on Industrial Relations, as will the Canadian Congress of Labor (CIO).

What can labor expect of the Committee on Industrial Relations? This house committee is composed of 29 assorted enemies of the labor movement ranging all the way from the Bloc Populaire, Social Credit and Progressive Conservative to the Liberal Party; plus four CCF members. It has no authority to enforce its decisions. It has been set up by the government only to test, to feel out and to shape "public opinion," and to divert the workers from a genuine struggle against the proposed legislation.

Last summer after all other methods failed to smash the steelworkers' strike at Hamilton the government called in this parliamentary committee. It was supposed to "settle the current strike wave," but in reality it was designed to build public opinion against the strike and remove the struggle from the picket line where it had to be won.

CREATING ILLUSIONS

All the trade union leaders including the CCF and the LPP scurried to testify at its sittings. It was only after a month of wordy debate that the National Wage Coordinating Committee of the CCL charged that the parliamentary committee did nothing but create "the illusion in the minds of the public" . . . that it was "going to settle the strikes." In reality of course, it was they, the trade union leadership, who created this illusion by diverting the strike struggle into the committee's hearings.

The four CCF M.P.s by remaining on the committee continue to foster the illusion that labor can utilize it to defend its rights. Not only do they foster it but they themselves have fallen prey to it. The proposed anti-labor law incorporates Order-in-Council 3689. Section 6 of this Order-in-Council which placed the unions at the mercy of a government-conducted secret strike vote, was drafted by CCF Committee member Claire Gillis during the Stelco enquiries.

The trade union bureaucrats will get a hearing along with the representatives of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and every petty servant and propagandist of the trusts and monopolies. But that is all that they will get, while labor's enemies are working night and day to strangle the union movement in an endless mass of red tape and regulations. At the same time they will have aided the government in its murderous attack on the unions by having given sanction and endorsation to its committee.

Big Business and its Ottawa hirelings are preparing this anti-labor assault to soften up the workers for the coming depression, for wage cuts, mass layoffs and the Third World War. Only the organized power of the working class can smash the anti-labor drive. Telegrams, postcards and delegations appealing to the Industrial Relations Committee are worse than woefully inadequate. Beat back the anti-labor drive, defend the trade unions with mass protests and demonstrations!

Quebec Unions Hit MP's Importation Of 'Slave Laborers'

MONTREAL, May 25. — Labor circles in the province here are incensed with the government immigration policy as exemplified by importation of 100 Polish girls to work in the spinning mills of St. Georges de Beauce. Even the usually tranquil Catholic Syndicate have denounced this slave labor deal as a "great scandal."

Ludger Dionne, Liberal M.P. for Beauce county, (not far from Quebec City) is now in Germany arranging to fly these girls from Allied concentration camps in Germany to Canada. Dionne, millionaire owner of the spinning mill where they will work, will pay part of the $45,000 cost of the flight; a United Nations refugee committee which includes Canada, will pay the major share.

The Polish girls, under 24 years of age, many of whom were former slave labor in Hitler Germany, will be the slaves of Dionne for at least two years. They will be paid the Quebec minimum wage of 20 cents per hour and work a 48-hour week. Out of the magnificent salary of $9.60 paid them by the "charitable" Dionne, they will have to pay $6.00 to live in a barracks run by the nuns of the Order of the Good Shepherd.

06-01-26

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE (39) June 1947

RWP Protests Arrest of Union Leaders in India

TORONTO, May 19.—The arrest in Madras, India, of C. S. S. Antonipillai, president of the All-India Trade Union Congress, together with several other labor leaders, was protested today by the Revolutionary Workers Party in a cable to Jawaharlal Nehru.

Antonipillai, Colvin R. De Silva, Muttiah, and other members of the Bolshevik-Leninist Party of India were arrested and imprisoned a month ago, for leading and supporting a strike by 14,500 workers of the Buckingham and Carnatic Textile Mill in Madras.

The union had demanded that the workers be provided with decent housing, a cost-of-living bonus to meet inflated prices, and other necessary benefits. The textile strike still continues, despite attempts of the police to smash it by violence and terror.

The RWP wire declared: "Revolutionary Workers Party of Canada vigorously protests arrest of Colvin de Silva, Antonipillai, Muttiah and trade unionists by Madras government. This attack on democratic rights and working class organizations is a blow against struggle for Indian independence. Demand immediate release of all arrested."

Demands for the release of the Trotskyist leaders have also been made by the Revolutionary Communist Party, British section of the Fourth International, the Socialist Workers Party of the U.S., and many prominent American writers including George S. Schuyler, editor of the **Pittsburgh Courier**; Farrell Dobbs, editor of **The Militant**; James T. Farrell, noted novelist; Philip Rahv, editor of **Partisan Review**; Dwight MacDonald, editor of **Politics**; Emanuel Garrett, editor of **Labor Action**; Max Shachtman, editor of **New International**, and E. R. Frank, editor of **Fourth International**.

C. S. S. ANTONIPILLAI

Election Campaigns Bring Gains to U.S. Trotskyists

Vincent R. Dunne, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Minneapolis, was credited with 908 votes in the May 12 primary election, according to complete unofficial returns. This is a 26 per cent increase over the vote the SWP received for this office in 1943. It placed Dunne seventh in a field of 13 candidates.

Dunne, an organizer and builder of the Minneapolis General Drivers' Union, Local 544, and an active trade union leader for more than 25 years, was the only candidate who spoke on behalf of the striking telephone workers. He is one of the 18 leading American Trotskyists who were framed up and imprisoned by the Wall Street government during the war, for their opposition to the imperialist slaughter.

The SWP is now running three candidates for delegates to the Constitutional Convention in New Jersey: William E. Bohannon, George Breitman, and Alan Kohlman.

The SWP in other recent election campaigns ran Michael Bartell as candidate for mayor of Chicago on a write-in ballot, and Louis Kisner as candidate for the Los Angeles City Council.

06-01-3

LABOR CHALLENGE (39) JUNE 1947

06-01-4

4th International Calls for Aid to German Workers

With the failure of the Moscow Conference, "Germany is still covered with ruins, cut up into four occupation zones, under four different military dictatorships. The toiling masses are still the prey of ruin, famine, lack of clothing and of housing. Their most elementary needs are still unfulfilled after seven years of war and privation. And the most elementary democratic rights are still denied them after 12 years of Fascist dictatorship," the International Committee of the Fourth International points out, in a Manifesto calling upon the workers of the world to aid their German brothers.

The Manifesto shows that the U.S. and Britain, while "hypocritically opposing the plunder policy of the Kremlin," have "clearly shown their own brigand policy by sharing out the coal of the Ruhr among their French, Belgian and Dutch satellites and by assuming complete domination of all industry in the Western zones of Germany."

"The Big 4 explain their policy of oppression and plunder," it says, "by the myth of the 'collective guilt' of the German people in starting the war." But the capitalists of the whole world "for years economically, politically and morally fortified Hitler, whom they regarded as their 'anti-communist bulwark.' . . . While thousands of militant German workers were being murdered by the Nazis, the representatives of international capitalism . . . made a whole series of 'friendship pacts' with him."

The Stalinists were equally guilty. "In 1933 Stalin turned the German working class over to Hitler without a struggle . . . The pact he conducted with Hitler in 1939 precipitated the invasion of Poland . . . The ultra-chauvinist wartime propaganda of the Kremlin was one of the principal elements in paralyzing the revolutionary energy of the German workers and in reinforcing Nazi chauvinism."

The policy of the Big 4 only prepares the starting point for the race towards the Third World War, the Manifesto warns. "Don't forget that a new robbers' treaty, just like the Versailles Treaty after the First World War, will only create very fertile ground for the rebirth of another violent wave of chauvinism in Germany."

Impoverishment of Germany means pauperization of all Europe. "To destroy Germany's industry, to lower the standard of living and the productivity of labor of its masses to that of colonial slaves means condemning the entire European economy, in which German economy is the spinal column, to permanent depression." Economic revival of Europe is impossible "if Germany is transformed into a vast prison where 70 million galley slaves toil for the production of reparations for the Stalinist bureaucracy or profits for the world capitalist class . . .

"Only a free, united Germany, under the leadership of its working class, can fully contribute to the swift economic reconstruction (of Europe) through the rational exploitation of its natural wealth, the development of its industrial potentialities, and the complete utilization of the technical qualifications of its workers."

Addressing the workers of the U.S., the Manifesto points out that "the military dictatorship that your generals want to perpetuate in Germany is a training school for future would-be dictators of the U.S. The same hyenas who prepare the anti-labor laws in Washington also want to reduce the German working class to abject slavery." The fight against the American trusts, it says, is "one and the same with the struggle for the recall of American troops" and "against all the reparations plans."

It calls on the workers of the Soviet Union to "Remember the appeals of Lenin and Trotsky for 'Peace without annexations or reparations,' for "the fraternization of the workers of all countries'." Only a free, socialist Germany can "give a new impetus to your collectivized economy" and bring "the bread, liberty and culture of which the Kremlin deprives you."

It warns the British workers that "The fusion of the Attlee government's German policy with Truman's, will definitely lead you on the road to the Third World War . . . The road towards a stable peace, towards the elimination of the reactionary bureaucracy of the Labor ministers, towards the expropriation of the monopolists . . . is the road of struggle against the continued occupation of Germany and against annexations and reparations."

To the French workers it explains that "Those who hope to distract your attention towards the Ruhr coal only hope in that way to perpetuate their own bloody, filthy rule, your own growing misery and the violent domination of the French and colonial masses."

The document calls upon all communist workers, in the spirit of Lenin's Comintern, to combat the occupation of Germany, the annexation of its provinces and all the reparation plans.

To the workers of Germany it declares this appeal is "a message of hope," a reminder "that in 30 countries there are organizations (Trotskyist) that reject with disgust the mud-slinging campaign against you, that hold higher than ever the banner of world proletarian solidarity . . .

"In the spirit of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, it calls upon you, the workers of Germany, to struggle against the occupation, plunder and dismemberment of your country. You have only one enemy: the German and world exploiters. Only one ally: the oppressed masses of the entire world!" It concludes:

"The German working class will show humanity that it is capable of lifting its country and the whole continent to a new and wondrous level of peace and well being!"

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE (39) June 1947

463 New Subs Are Chalked Up In First 5 Weeks of Campaign

By JOE ROSE

With 129 new subs added since the last tally in our campaign for 1,250 new readers, the national total has been swelled to 463. In the fifth week of the three-month campaign, we have surpassed 36 per cent of our quota.

Last week the Toronto Branch of the Revolutionary Workers Party forged ahead with the greatest gain. Adding 76 new subs, they raised their total to 250 subs, mainly as a result of door-to-door canvassnig.

The mid-May **Labor Challenge** featured a report of the militant struggle of 55 Toronto families threatened with eviction from a trailer camp. One comrade showed the article to many of the trailerites. In less than an hour he obtained 12 subs, one from almost every person he talked to.

"I'm glad your paper doesn't cry over us," said one trailerite, after reading our account of their fight. "We don't want sympathy, we want homes."

The Vancouver Branch sent in a batch of 37 subs, raising their total to 136. They report that another set is on the way.

From Magna Bay, B.C., Harry Noakes sent in four subs, two of them from Japanese-Canadians who are looking for a solution to the kicking around they have been getting from the capitalist government.

Don Dotzert of Windsor mailed in five new subs, and asked for extra papers so that he could make a wider distribution for more subwork.

Two new subs arrived from Quebec this week, too.

PACE-SETTERS

The prize for the best sub-getter, a copy of Leon Trotsky's "Problems of the Chinese Revolution," is providing stimulation for a friendly "knock-down drag-out fight" among the pace-setters. Joe Rose has sprinted into the lead with 53 subs. Very close behind is Paul Kane with 50. Both are menaced by Mary Wood with 45 subs. These three comrades are from Toronto. We warn them that they may be busted when Vancouver's list comes in!

The campaign is steadily forging ahead. Best results have come from organized rallies in working class districts. It's a large turnout that counts—salesmanship isn't necessary, our comrades report, because workers are looking for a fighting program.

The number of subs we can bring in is limited only by the number of houses we visit. So let's invite all our friends and sympathizers to help us cover more ground, and surpass our national goal!

SCOREBOARD

Toronto	250
Vancouver	136
Prairies	36
British Columbia	30
Ontario	7
Quebec	4
Total	463

Join the R. W. P.

06-01-5

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party — Canadian Section, Fourth International

Vol. III, No. 11 (40) — TORONTO, MID-JUNE, 1947 — PRICE: 5 Cents

Heroic Record of Chinese Trotskyists
—(SEE PAGE THREE)

NEW STATUS A TRAP FOR INDIA

Prices Going Up Again As Ottawa Lifts More Ceilings

By DAVID WILLIAMS

Housewives who are groggy from trying to keep up with rising prices, received another blow from the government this week. Scores more of the things that every worker needs, have been decontrolled; and other ceilings will be raised.

On June 2, toilet soap rose one cent a bar, and laundry soap two cents a bar. Ceiling prices on restaurant meals were boosted 10 per cent—then removed altogether. Leather goods are due to go up 5 per cent. Price hikes on rayons will affect many kinds of wearing apparel, especially for women.

Removal of subsidies will bring price increases on a number of hides and leathers. Leather gloves will cost five per cent more; other leather goods may rise 10 per cent.

Altogether at least one-quarter of the goods still under price ceilings, were freed from controls on June 9.

PARTIAL LIST

Among the items reported are poultry, canned and frozen fruits, roast jellies and marmalade, butter, ice cream, cheese, the remainder of canned fish products, restaurant meals; textiles, hosiery, collars, cuffs, aprons, bedspreads, towels, pillow-cases, window-blinds; pulp and paper; hard woods; heating equipment.

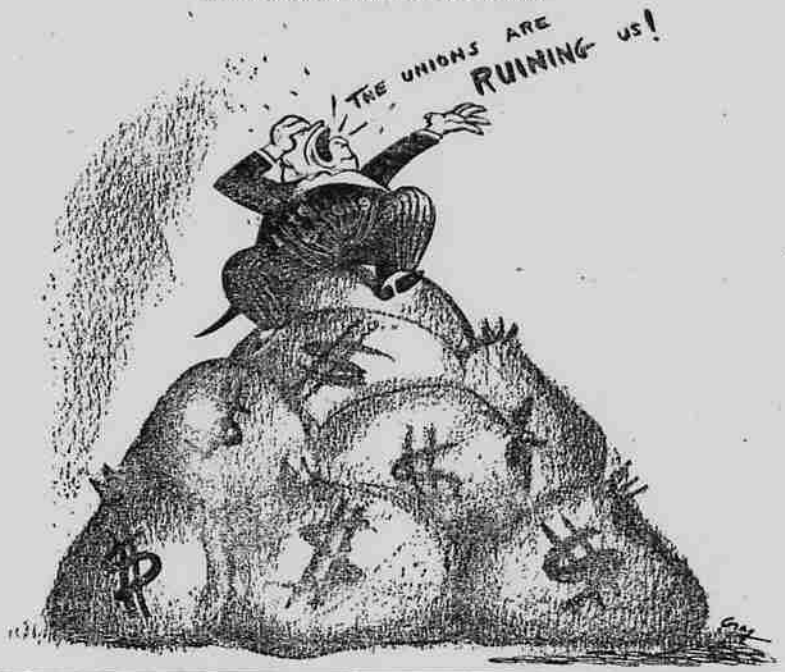
All these increases are driving up the cost of living at an unprecedented pace.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics' cost-of-living index advanced 2.5 points in the month ending May 1. This is the second largest increase recorded since September, 1939, when the rise was 2.7. The official cost-of-living index now stands at 133.1. Even this index is woefully inadequate; living costs far exceed its figures. Nevertheless it indicates the trend. The declining purchasing power of the worker is forcing them to seek credits and financial assistance. The Financial Post, organ of Big Business, reported May 31 that more Canadians are shopping 'on the cuff,' but installment practice hasn't yet deteriorated to the 'dollar down' days of the 30's . . ."

"Consumer credit has been mounting steadily in recent

(Continued on Page 4)

THE PROFITEERS' LAMENT



Greek Revolutionists Face Death Penalty

(Special to Labor Challenge)

ATHENS, May 23—Five members of the Internationalist Communist Party of Greece (Greek section of the Fourth International) have just been arrested, accused of violating the "public order" measures decreed by the reactionary monarchist government.

In Salonika, three other members of the ICP including a woman comrade, are to be court-martialed. They face the death sentence.

Five other Greek Trotskyists have been condemned to two months imprisonment for distributing a leaflet.

Labor Presses Demands For New Wage Increases

By PAUL KANE

(SEE Page 2) →

06-15-1a

Labor Party Partition Offer Will Bring New Antagonisms, Economic Chaos

By ROSS DOWSON

To a hushed assembly of the British House of Commons, "socialist" Prime Minister Attlee announced on June 3, his government's plan to partition the vast sub-continent of India and offer Dominion satus to its 400,000,000 peoples. The world press proclaimed that this act terminated Britain's 200 year rule of India and that the 200 year struggle of the Indian masses against colonial oppression was finally ended in freedom.

Winston Churchill, the evil old man who is the very symbol of imperialist reaction, rose in the House to "give great credit" to the "labor" Prime Minister. In Canada Liberal Prime Minister King and CCF House Leader Coldwell both joined in approval and hope that the Indian Governments would remain in the British Commonwealth of Nations.

What unites the super-imperialists and the reformist politicians is the fact that the partition plan and the offer of dominion status will not give freedom to India, but "has saved India for the Empire."

The balkanization of India sanctioned by the parliamentary "socialists" is the culmination of the imperialist strategy of "divide and rule" that has been the guiding policy of English capital through all its years of bloody exploitation of the colonial masses.

CRUDE OPERATION

The crude surgical operation known as partition, will rip India asunder, will erect artificial barriers between people who speak the same language, belong to the same stock and have the same common culture. Passed off as a cure for the racial and religious differences that exist in India, insofar as the Indian masses are concerned, the "cure" is worse than the disease.

The province of Bengal in the north-east, containing a large Hindu population and separated by over a thousand miles from the north-west provinces of the Punjab with its thousands of Sikhs, will be joined together in a Moslem controlled Pakistan. These areas contain little industry, few large cities; the peasantry is ridden with debts.

Seven provinces scattered through India, containing the bulk of agricultural and industrial development, will compose Hindustan.

The 563 princely states dotted throughout India from Kashmir in the far north all the way to Travancore in the south, breaking and splitting up both Hindustan and Pakistan, compose Rajistan.

The Indian states, imperialism's fifth column, ruled with the aid of British arms by wealthy, powerful

→ to p.2

FOREIGN MINISTER BEVIN

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(40) Mid-June 1947

→ From p.1

06-15-1b

Labor Presses Demands For New Wage Increases

By PAUL KANE

The vast price increases granted to the giant monopolists, which in the past month resulted in a 2½ point increase in the government cost of living index, are impelling fresh ranks of workers into the struggle for new wage increases.

Steel, Auto, Rubber, Textile, Lumber, the Packinghouse Workers, and other unions in basic industry have already commenced their drives for wage increases and have been joined by scattered AFL unions.

This week the National Union of Shoe and Leather Workers announced its 1947 wage campaign calling for a 20 cent an hour increase to raise its members "out of the depths of their oppression."

The tremendous price raises have filled the bosses' anti-union war chests to overflowing. Drunk with power and hog-wild in the defense of their ill-gotten gains, the monopolists have taken an intransigent and arrogant attitude towards labor's demand for higher wages.

The 35,000 members of the International Woodworkers of America (CCL-CIO) on the West Coast are asking for a 20 cent an hour increase. They have been offered a miserable 11 cent increase which is being voted on by the membership as we go to press. The 6,000 General Electric employees in Toronto and Peterborough, organized in the United Electrical Workers Union, have rejected decisively the company's picayune offer of 4 cents and have authorized a strike vote to back up their demands.

The membership of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers at the New Toronto Anaconda plant turned thumbs down on a company offer of 4½ cents. The Port Arthur AFL Carpenters and Joiners strike is holding firm for $1.25 an hour.

"POOR" INCO

The 13,000 members of the IUMMS employed by International Nickel at Port Colborne and Sudbury are in the midst of negotiating for a 15 cent general increase. International Nickel's profits increased 41.9 per cent in the three months ending March 31, almost 8 million dollars, or 51 cents a share compared with 35 cents in 1946. A new contract has been signed, but it does not cover wages. The "poor" company has offered only a 10 cent raise.

While some unions have rejected the miserable company offers, others have made settlements which are gradually adding up to the setting of a low wage increase pattern across Canada.

SMALL GAINS

The United Rubber Workers at the Seiberling and Dunlop plants in Toronto have accepted 7 and 7½ cent offers, while the Goodyear Local accepted increases from 9 to 16 cents, said by union leaders to average out to 11.69 cents.

Numerous Steelworkers locals in the fabricating plants have accepted increases as low as 6 and 7 cents an hour. The 650 Steelworkers employed at the Moffat Stove Company in Weston, after an isolated seven week strike for a 13½ cent increase, were forced back to work with a mere 3 cent increase and the question of additional increases left in the hands of an arbitrator.

UAW members at the Brantford and Toronto Massey Harris plants, 6,000 strong, have voted acceptance of increases varying from 8 to 13 cents an hour. A segment of the Taylor empire, this company announced a 2¼ million net profit for 1946, the highest since the 1929 boom.

NEED TO FIGHT

The trade unions today are in a powerful position to launch an effective coordinated drive to defend the living standards of their own membership and the entire working class. Almost 700,000 strong with their roots deep in the basic industries, they have already proved their great strength in last year's victorious strike struggles.

But the AFL and CCL bureaucrats, frightened by last year's strike wave, want to sit this one out. Instead of defending the interests of the membership they have sought compromise after compromise and have fought hardest for the acceptance of the low wage offers.

To defend the living standards of the workers it is necessary to smash through the low wage settlements that threaten to become a pattern. It is necessary to prod the trade union leadership into action.

Dowson from p.1 →

Dominion Status Is New Trap for Indian People

(Continued from Page 1)

and ruthless feudal princes, are backward and poverty stricken. The majority of these states will declare their independence of both Pakistan and Hindustan, retain their own state autonomy or form a block with other princely states.

It has been estimated that it will take 2 to 3 years to work out the permanent status of the new India. During this period Britain will keep a governor-general in India and control customs, finance and defense. By partition the imperialists hope to keep their stranglehold, for it can only be retained if India is weak. The partition is calculated to ensure this chronic weakness.

Jinnah's Moslem League, representing the rack-renting and usurous landlords, has already accepted the British plan. All the leaders of the Indian National Congress Party, including Mahatma Ghandi who only a few weeks previously proclaimed: "We will not concede an inch of Pakistan; let the whole nation be in flames," have blessed India's "vivisection."

The British Foreign Office and London financial circles plan a more thorough and intensive exploitation of India with the fullest concurrence of the native capitalists who control the Congress Party. That accounts for the sell-out of the Congress and its surrender settlement. A new partnership in crime, not the transfer of power—an entente cordiale between the native and imperialist

(Continued on Page 3)

bourgeoisie—can be the only re sult of the much boosted constitu tional advance. The imperialist will continue to clip their coupon and the native capitalists are as sured of a junior partnership wit a share of the booty spoils an plunder.

The Congress leadership seel protection at the side of the Britis lion from the increasing wrath o the Indian peasantry and workin class whom they jointly exploit For concurrent with the rise o the Congress Party, between the two world wars has developed a powerful and militant workin class which threatens to wrench the power from both their hands.

As against the Labor Party's phony "self determination," the Bolshevik Leninist Party, Indian Section of the Fourth International, raises a clarion call for the withdrawal of all British power from India, for a constituent assembly elected by universal suffrage of all men and women over 18.

Fearful of its ideas and the rising response that it is receiving from the oppressed peasantry and working class, the Indian bourgeoisie embarked on a feverish campaign against the Bolshevik-Leninists.

In Madras, President Antonypillai of the Madras Labor Union, a member of the central committee of the BLPI, was arrested while leading a mill workers' strike and has been externed to Ceylon. The Congress government arrested the secretary of the Madras unit of the party and seized Colvin deSilva, General Secretary of the BLPI as he arrived from Calcutta to address a mass meeting. On the other side of the continent at Bombay the party headquarters were raided and Indra Sen and Ananth Mandekar arrested. Sen is a member of the bureau of the Central Committee of the party and of the editorial board of its English paper, New Spark.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE
(40) Mid-June 1947

06-15-2

Fourth International Has Heroic Record in China

CHINA—The Trotskyist organization, the Communist League of China, was cut to pieces in the first year after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Every local unit had to rely on its own initiative and courage to meet the emergencies. Only common ideas and traditions continued to bind us together. No news, no communication could be exchanged.

Even after the war, we had to wait another year and a half to draw a complete picture of our organization on a national scale. Everywhere that we had a group of comrades or a unit, we had a glorious epic too. We say that without any exaggeration. Let us give you some brief sketches now.

SHANGHAI STRUGGLES

Our comrades in Shanghai maintained the official organ, **Tao Tsing Pao** (Struggle), even under the most difficult conditions. They continued the revolutionary activities among workers and students. Our young student comrades served in the Tam Car Company and other factories as workers. They successfully contacted the ranks of the Communist Party and made some headway among them.

One of our women workers led a series of strikes in several weaving factories and was finally put under arrest by Japanese policemen. A girl student comrade paid a careless visit to the prisoner and was taken into custody at once. Completely terrorized by the brutal torture, she went mad and betrayed everything she knew. A group of young comrades were arrested soon. Comrade Liu Chia Liang, who just left the hospital after a serious operation removing a tubercular kidney, had a narrow escape.

Comrade Peng also escaped from the deadly hands of the Japanese butchers. It is difficult to adequately describe the heroism of this old Bolshevik who not only showed his great abilities and resourcefulness in meeting a series of emergencies, but went hand in hand with us even under the most dangerous conditions of wartime. In spite of the fact that our enemies knew his name very well, he bravely lectured in two universities under a pseudonym, and converted a group of Stalinist students to our cause.

After the wholesale arrests and raids, our Shanghai organization almost broke down. Other responsible comrades were forced to hide, and Comrade Liu lay paralyzed in the sick bed again. Yet Comrade Peng boldly and calmly stuck to his post.

SHANTUNG WARFARE

Our comrades in Shantung Province became the best fighters in the guerrilla war. Some comrades fought in the Stalinist Eighth Route Army. But as soon as they were discovered as Trotskyists, they were shamefully shot one after another. One of our young comrades died an especially heroic death. Before the first Stalinist bullet stilled his voice, he made a revolutionary speech to his fellow fighters attacking Stalinism and upholding the revolutionary slogans to his last berath.

How many comrades lost their lives at the criminal bloody hands of Stalinist murderers? We cannot yet give an exact account.

Another group of Shantung comrades, headed by a brave young comrade Cheong Li Ming, set up a small guerrilla detachment on the border of Kiangshu and Anwei. They had to conduct their guerrilla war not only against Japanese armies, but also resisting the murderous attacks of Kuomintang and Stalinist armies. They, however, successfully overcame all obstacles and managed to win their way to eastern Chekiang. There, the small detachment rapidly swelled to an army of two thousand fighters. Comrade Cheong Li Ming was elected a commander.

CHEN TU-HSIU
Renowned Chinese Trotskyist leader who died in 1942 at the age of 64. He was one of the founders of the Chinese Communist Party. Expelled as a Left Oppositionist in 1930, he helped launch the Trotskyist movement. He was imprisoned by the Kuomintang from 1932 to 1937.

STALINIST MURDERS

Even the native Stalinists held a mass meeting to welcome "the most loyal anti-Japanese fighter—Commander Cheong." Comrade Cheong's army attacked Japanese armies frequently. Its dynamics made a deep impression on the peasants. And its popularity caused a great envy in the top ranks of the Stalinists, who ground their teeth in rage. Only the unfavorable position bound their murderous hands.

But when Cheong's guerrilla army suffered a fatal defeat in the battle of Tzin Hwa, the Stalinists seized their golden chance. Comrade Cheong and his wife were captured in the Stalinist-controlled zone. Together with them, a wife and a small son of another comrade, a Formosa revolutionary who had recently been converted into a devoted Trotskyist, and several women, were all placed under arrest.

At first, the Stalinists tried to get a denunciation of Trotskyism from Cheong's mouth. When they found out that it was hopeless to bend his will, they mercilessly beheaded him. His wife and all other captives were shot wholesale. Even the six year old innocent boy was not spared by the Stalin- their hands ist beasts. He was thrown into the sea and drowned.

UNDER THE JAPANESE

In Southern China, our comrades stubbornly maintained the party nuclei in Japanese-controlled factories and docks. They worked hard and led a "life even worse than that of an ox or a horse" in Hongkong and Canton. We note with pride that our base in Canton was established only after the beginning of the Pacific War.

The emergence of our organization in Canton meant that the Communist movement was again beginning to take root in the traditional revolutionary soil after a lapse of fifteen years since the Canton putsch. We owed the initiative for this significant work to Comrade Fun, one of our leading members in Southern China, who was unfortunately killed by an American bomb on his way from Hongkong to Shanghai.

Comrade Su, a printer and also another leading member of our Southern organization, conducted brave activities among his fellow workers. Once he led a strike in defiance of the Japanese authorities. A Japanese agent threatened nim in a terrible manner, demanding that he choose either death or signing an order to stop the strike.

Some friendly workers advised him to submit. But Comrade Su said calmly before the strikers and the Japanese agent: "I prefer death to an order of surrender." All the strikers admired and supported him. Their enemy was dumbfounded by this proletarian heroism, and finally conceded. From then on Comrade Su won a great popularity among the printers of Canton and Hongkong.

It should not be forgotten that our comrades were working under the most brutal rule of the Japanese occupation army. Only Trotskyists could stand it.

UNDER THE KUOMINTANG

In Southwestern China, especially in Chungking, the stronghold of "free China," our comrades suffered no less persecution under Chiang Kai-shek's regime, because they alone had the courage to conduct strikes and criticize the treacherous policy of the Kuomintang government. They met raids and arrests several times. A great part of our comrades in the interior went through the hardship of concentration camps or hard labor camps. Even now, we still have several comrades in these camps.

That is the true picture of the movement of Chinese Trotskyism during the war. Numerically, it seemed small. But a group of tested cadres emerged from it. That was the thing most valuable and significant in our eyes. And that is the cause too for our unlimited optimism. In post-war China our movement was actually revived by their efforts. And the foundations of a new party will surely be laid by

LABOR CHALLENGE (40) Mid-June 1947

"Labor Challenge" Sub-Getters Pass Half-Way Mark in Campaign

By JOE ROSE

The addition of 211 new readers to LABOR CHALLENGE since our last report, now raises to 676 the total reached in our campaign for 1,250 new subs. In the seventh week of our three-month drive, we have achieved over 54 per cent of our quota.

The Toronto branch of the Revolutionary Workers Party has again chalked up the highest score. They have added 156 new subs, swelling their total to 406. This splendid gain was made mainly by house-to-house rallies in working class districts.

One sub-getter reported how he sold the paper right off, as soon as the man saw the cartoon. "That cartoon proves you're on our side," was his comment.

Another housewife was very enthusiastic about our program for defending the workers' living standards. "You must mean it," she said in a joking reference to our price. "Nobody else is selling anything that low."

FIND IT EASY

The Vancouver branch sent in 27 new subs, raising their total to 163. These were obtained mostly in factories. "It is very easy to convince workers that they should read our press," was the comment of one sub-getter. They now plan group actvilty at railway shops and plants. "We hope to boost our total sharply in the next two weeks," they add.

Ontario comrades have sent in 17 more subs, with the promise of supplementing this soon. Bill White from Brittania Beach, B.C., sent in three subs, saying that he expects to get more in a short time. Montreal has sent in four more subs.

The determination to win the prize for the best sub-getter is resulting in a very keen, close race. Still leading the pace-setters is Joe Rose with 78 subs. Close behind is Paul Kane with 69. Mary Wood with 57, Lloyd Whalen, with 55, and Courtenay Gray with 54, are in hot pursuit. Comrades Lloyd and Courtenay, both from Vancouver, promise plenty of competition for the Toronto pace-setters! They may yet walk off with the award, Leon Trotsky's "Problems of the Chinese Revolution."

SCOREBOARD

Toronto	406
Vancouver	163
Prairies	38
B.C.	36
Ontario	25
Quebec	8
TOTAL	676

06_15-3

Montreal Readers

For further information about Labor Challenge and the Revoluttionary Workers Party, write to:

LABOR CHALLENGE,
BOX 1482,
MONTREAL, QUE.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party — Canadian Section, Fourth International

VOL. III, No. 12 (41) — TORONTO, JULY, 1947 — PRICE: 5 Cents

Egyptian Government Arrests Hundreds
—(SEE PAGE THREE)

U.S. UNIONS DEFY ANTI-LABOR LAW

French Workers Moving Toward General Strike

(Special to Labor Challenge)

PARIS, June 21—The crescendo of strikes continues to mount in France, bringing with it an orientation towards general strike. A nationwide walkout of transport workers is expected to become effective today, with workers demanding a 6-franc hourly raise, and a scaled monthly increase of from 1,500 to 3,000 francs.

The Renault strike, which began shortly before May Day, broke the dam which had held back the militancy of the workers. Since the Renault victory, strikes have been almost constant in spite of the opposition of the trade union leaders. The rank and file of the railway workers went out on strike two weeks ago without orders from their officials, and won wage increases.

Because of the workers' solidarity and their recognition that this is the time to fight successfully for wage increases, the union leadership has now decided to "allow" limited strike movements. But the ranks are far in advance of such "limited" actions.

FORM COMMITTEE

Representatives of the most important metal plants in the Paris area, on the initiative of several leaders of the recent Renault strike, have formed an inter-factory committee of struggle," and issued a leaflet urging preparations for a general strike.

The committee represents workers in the Renault, Citroen, Bernard, Chausson, I. T. Morane, Unic, Lenondin, SNCAC-Issy, SNCAC-Boulogne, Caudron, Gnome et Rhone, Saurer, and Faca plants.

Their leaflet points out that the Citroen workers, in the second week of a slowdown strike, had obtained no results. A slowdown strike is "fruitless," it explains, because "all it does is sap the combative energy of the working class."

It declares that "the workers have had enough. They want to

PROGRAM FOR AMERICAN WORKERS

Reprinted from "The Militant," U.S. Trotskyist Weekly, June 7.

Ottawa Bill Threatens All Unions
Bureaucrats Discount Danger

By DAVID WILLIAMS

While the Canadian trade union leadership whistles in the dark, hoping to ward off impending at- in Ottawa. It is emerging as a measure to impose tremendous fines on striking workers and their organizations, for any violation of like the wage and hour legislation demanded by the labor movement.

There is nothing "inadequate" about the bill. It does exactly what

Miners, Omaha Packing Workers Strike As Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Bill Passes

By PAUL KANE

JUNE 25.—Walkouts and protests mounting from coast to coast at express train speed, signalize American labor's defiance of the vicious Taft-Hartley anti-labor bill which has become law over President Truman's 11th hour veto.

Less than an hour after Wall Street's Democratic and Republican machines cast their votes in an attempt to strangle the trade unions, thousands of Pennsylvania coal miners downed tools. In the Alabama fields the walkout has spread like wildfire. By 5 o'clock the same day 10,000 workers shut down 22 of the largest mines in the state. The strikes are gaining momentum and now encompass the entire bituminous coal industry.

MINERS LEAD

The mine workers who are leading this inspiring demonstration against the anti-labor law had only returned to work after 15,000 of them in Pennsylvania had struck against the bill as it was going through the legislature. This spontaneous rank and file protest was only quelled by the timorous UMW officialdom after five days of hammering. The coal miners then, as today, despite the threat of fierce court reprisals and fines, demonstrate the correct way to fight Wall Street's plans to shackle labor.

The entire top leadership of the CIO and the AFL, both Murray and Green, have sought to halt, with stacks of petitions, telegrams and letters, the onrush of this monster sired by the National Association of Manufacturers. Politically subservient to the Wall Street parties, they have cringed and whined for mercy before the power of the capitalist state.

Even now that all their servility proved to be in vain, even now that the bill is law they are preparing only a flood of law suits to challenge its constitutionality. But this craven leadership cannot prevent the genuine struggle against the law, at best they can only delay it with more explosive final consequences.

Hundreds of regional union bodies, city councils and locals, prior to the passage of the bill, demonstrated their profound opposition to it and their eagerness to do battle against it. The Los Angeles CIO Council, the Akron and Passaic Councils and Region 9 of the UAW, were the latest to call upon the CIO, AFL and the Railway Brotherhoods to organize a 24-hour general strike against the impending legislation. The 24-hour strike would have brought the anti-labor juggernaut to a halt.

The Sailors Union of the Pacific, San Francisco branch, has declared that "regardless of enactment we will refuse to recognize (it) as law." The powerful CIO National Maritime Union has roared its defiance . . . "If they attempt to use the Taft-Hartley Bill against us, we will fight . . . A concentration camp able to hold 100,000 of us would have to be built."

R. E. Farr, a district president of the USW, predicted that 90 per cent of all organized labor, 15,000,000 strong, and the most powerful in the world, would go on a protest strike within a week. AFL, CIO and independent unions all over the country have announced their intentions to test the new law on the picket lines and in the courts.

American monopolist interests, power drunk from their recent political coups in Europe and the East, needed the Taft-Hartley Bill to go farther down the path of atomic war with the USSR. They want to launch an offensive against the living standards of the American people, to grab off a greater share of the national income and place the courts and all government agencies directly in their services. The unions are a colossal barrier in their path.

All sections of the capitalist

(Continued on Page 2)

to → right col.

07_01-1

U. S. Workers In Strike Against Taft-Hartley Law

(Continued from Page 1)

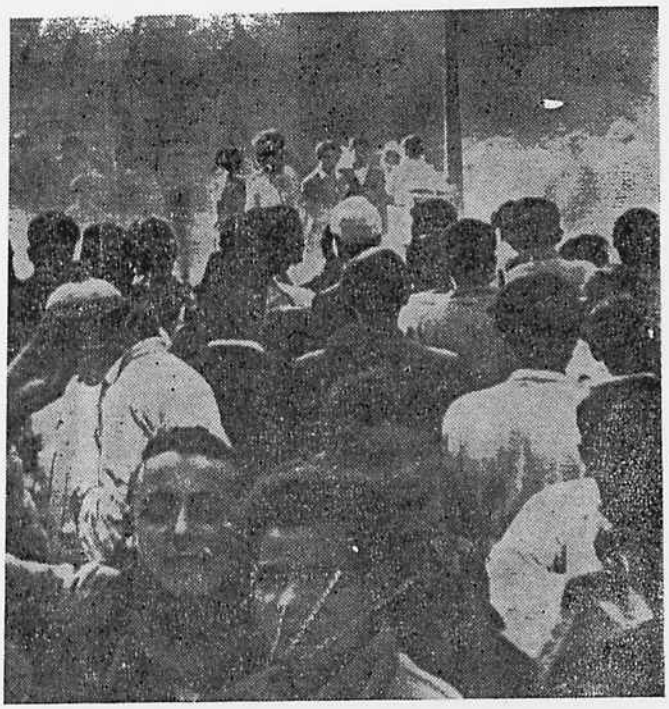
class were not completely unite behind the bill. Some, like Truma and his shrewd Washington a visers, fear that labor at this tim won't strangle easy—they woul have liked to postpone its passag

They fear the explosive force that the Taft-Hartley Bill threa ens to release. They fear that th American workers will break fro the twin agencies of the monop lies, the Democrats and the Repu licans, and erect their own polit cal party based on the trade union This is the motivation of Truman last minute veto—a veto cast whe all the lines were drawn and whic cost nothing.

The struggle for the Labor Part based on the trade unions is gai ing momentum in the U.S., an will be given added power as th role of the two capitalist partie becomes more clear. Truman's vet won't prevent this developmer long.

As they struggle against it, a it increasingly affects their dail lives, the workers will study wit ten-fold attention how the bill cam to be passed. They will ask wha the Democrats did in Congress an what Truman did besides the toke veto. They will recall that Truma led the assault on the railwa workers and fined the coal miner union. They will hold ALL th capitalist politicians responsibl

es Demand Withdrawal of British Troops



vhen Egyptian workers demonstrated to demand withdrawal of British ops. Police attacked the demonstration.

07_01-2

Reign of Terror Rages in Egypt

(Special to Labor Challenge)

CAIRO—The Egyptian government has launched a wave of terror against the working class. Over 500 homes were searched and over 150 people arrested after a bomb burst in the Metro Cinema on May 6, anniversary of the crowning of King Farouk.*

The police investigation established the innocence of most of the persons, and kept only a young reactionary (member of the pro-fascist **Misr el Fattat** — Young Egypt) as the chief accused. But the press continued to charge the left.

The government paper **Al Osbouh** said that although the terrorists "belonged to all political parties, they were all contaminated by communist ideology. If we want to finish with terrorism, we must finish with communist ideology itself."

Another government paper **Rosheel-Yousseff** tried to instigate violence against the Trotskyists: "There is in Egypt," it said, "a group affilliated to the Fourth International which was founded by the Communist leader Leon Trotsky. The Trotskyists are the worst kind of communists because of their extremism and their belief that Communism can only be installed by blood and fire. The language of death is the only one they understand . . ."

EDITORS SEIZED

The whole editorial board of the Socialist magazine **Rabbittat-el-Chabab**, including the Trotskyist Loutfallah Soliman, was arrested for protesting against the government terror regime, although it also condemned the cinema bombing.

Comrade Soliman, the 65-year-old Fabian Socialist Salama Moussa (translator into Arabic of Marx's **Capital** and Lenin's **Imperialism**), Cairo University Professor Rached-el-Barraoui, and others were seized in this arrest. They were released three days later, upon the payment of 300 pounds—a sum so large it makes it impossible for them to publish their review, at least for a time.

Under the signatures of Loutfallah Soliman and Anwar Kamel, the Revolutionary Communist Group of Egypt (Fourth International) recently published their first manifesto since the reorganization of the group. The manifesto denounces the government for its long game with British imperialism. It exposes the drawn-out Anglo-Egyptian negotiations and the government's decision to submit the whole problem of British troops to the United Nations (with the support of all the Egyptian capitalist parties and the Stalinists).

The government wants to get the British out of Egypt and out of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan as well, but at the same time is afraid of that new force on the scene, the Egyptian proletariat.

Most of Egyptian industry is very artificial—it can only be maintained by increasing the purchasing power of the masses at the expense of the capitalist and feudal lords—or else by finding some good closed foreign market for their goods.

The end of the wartime inflated demand for Egyptian goods—with hordes of Allied soldier customers and lack of competition—turned Egyptian capitalist eyes towards the Sudanese market.

Increasing the purchasing power of the masses, carrying out the bourgeois democratic revolution which would enlarge its internal possibilities—these are the tasks from which the Egyptian capitalists turn away with fear; both threaten to strengthen their enemy, the proletariat, grown from 412,000 in 1937, to 1,500,000 in 1946. They prefer by far to try their luck at an imperialist exploitation of the Sudan, linking it to their fiscal and customs system.

CALL FOR SOLIDARITY

All the religious, linguistic and racial arguments about the Sudan are pure bluff to bolster an economic and political penetration. The Egyptian Trotskyists, while denouncing British imperialist occupation, also denounce the Egyptian capitalists' attempt to do the same to the Sudan. They demand: immediate and unconditional evacuation of British troops from Egypt and the Sudan, and the right of the Sudanese people to political and social self-determination.

The RCG manifesto ends with these words: "We must struggle against British imperialism. We must struggle against budding Egyptian imperialism. We must struggle against imperialism wherever we find it. That is why we call for active solidarity with all the peoples who are fighting for their liberty."

LEFT JABS

Success at Last

"Fur and fish poaching in northern Ontario, which reached the stage of big-time racketeering involving millions of dollars in 1944-45-46, has been all but smashed," the Department of Lands and Forests announced proudly, June 18.

How? Well . . . "due to lack of lucrative markets in the U.S. and Canada," the black marketeers just quit.

• • •

Problems of Youth

The third annual convention of the B.C. Cooperative Commonwealth Youth Movement last month set forth its "socialist" demands in a number of resolutions. Listed first, in the **CCF News** account, was the right of teachers to hold two jobs. Others included legalization of lotteries for charitable institutions, and nationalization of the brewing industry. Perhaps fearful that all this won't bring socialism in their time after all, the young people fervently urged that "the provincial government retain the recent $5 boost in old-age pensions permanently . . ."

• • •

Tears for Tyrants

Alas for the native princes of India, says the **Toronto Star** in an editorial, June 13. "They have been progressive enough to make living conditions under their rule a little more pleasant than those generally prevailing in British India," but now their future is in doubt.

Among the pleasant conditions it quotes: the Nizam of Hyderabad has a harem and four billion dollars; the Maharahal of Kashmir loads down his favorite horse with emeralds; the Nawab of Bophal fondly takes his polo ponies along on visits to London.

"India is full of color under the princely system," it sums up. And the Star sadly concludes, "Much of this may disappear as the lot of the masses of India improves."

Much?—no, all of this—and with it, all of the poverty, disease, and misery of India's 400 million people will disappear, when they rise up and destroy the "colorful" rulers who grind them down.

New Subs Set Record as Campaign Hits 9th Week

By JOE ROSE

A record total of 255 new subs sent in since the last issue, raises to 931 the number of subs received so far in our three-month campaign for 1,250 new readers to *Labor Challenge*. In the ninth week of the campaign, this represents over 74 per cent of our quota.

This time the Vancouver branch of the Revolutionary Workers Party has chalked up the greatest proportional gains. By adding 77 new subs to its total, which now stands at 240, it has reached 80 per cent of its quota.

In a note from Vancouver, one comrade writes that "Our North Vancouver comrades, working in a Wartime Housing area, told us they found people waiting with the quarter to pay for the sub, following a pre-distribution of the paper. One worker said, 'Yes, I did get a sample copy of the paper and I sure like its hard-hitting articles and information. I'm a CCF supporter, but your PROGRAM appeals to me immensely as the most practical to build working class action'."

The Toronto branch brought in 134 new subs, thus raising its total to 540 or over 72 per cent of its quota. Organized rallies held twice weekly in working class districts, again produced excellent results. In one district six comrades obtained 46 subs in an hour and a half.

Among the enthusiastic workers who took subs was one who confided that "Personally, I don't believe this—that the boss papers are spreading about the 'Red Menace'."

Claude Patterson, a friend from Lloydminster, has sent us nine more subs. He writes, "I have been working some 16 hours per day, so have had no time for correspondence, reading or anything other than farm work." But, he promises, "now that the 'Spring Rush' is over, we will look about us for new fields to conquer."

We received 24 new subs from various points in Ontario. Four more arrived from Prince Rupert, and three from other parts of British Columbia. Montreal has sent in two subs.

The race among the pace-setters for the prize offered to the best sub-getter, is hotly contested. Still leading the field is Joe Rose who has reached the 100 mark. The runners-up, however, are much too close for him to feel any comfort in his position. Paul Kane now has 87, Mary Wood has 81, Courtenay Gray has 73 and Lloyd Whalen has 71. The results these pace-setters are getting should be a real inspiration to other supporters.

Montreal Readers

For further information about Labor Challenge and the Revoluttionary Workers Party, write
LABOR CHALLENGE,
BOX 1482,
MONTREAL, QUE.

SCOREBOARD

Toronto	540
Vancouver	240
Prairies	49
Ontario	49
B.C.	43
Quebec	10
TOTAL	931

Nanaimo Laundry Workers Defy B.C. Anti-Labor Bill

(Special to Labor Challenge)

Wages, Prices and Profits

LABOR'S DEFENSE — THE SLIDING SCALE

By WARREN CREEL

07-01-3

WORKERS OF THE WORL

LABOR CH

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party

VOL. III, No. 13 (42) MID-JULY — AUGUST, 1947

The Real Role Of Henry Wallace

—(SEE PAGE THREE)

RWP Barred At Labor Bill Hearings

The Revolutionary Workers Party and other militant sections of the working class were barred from hearings on the federal anti-labor Bill 338, by order of the Commons Industrial Relations Committee.

This bill, drawn up by the Bay Street labor haters, was a blueprint to outlaw strikes and smash the unions. It set huge fines for union violation of compulsory arbitration, involving a cooling-off period of at least 70 days. It paves the way for mass firings of union militants, by mere token fines for companies.

The RWP applied for a hearing before the Committee, pointing out that "the importance of the projected legislation cannot be overestimated," and that "various tendencies in the labor movement" should have the democratic right of testifying.

Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labor, demanded the rejection of the RWP appeal because, he said, he feared that the hearing would turn into a "political forum." What he really feared was that it might turn into a genuine expression of labor's opposition t othe bill.

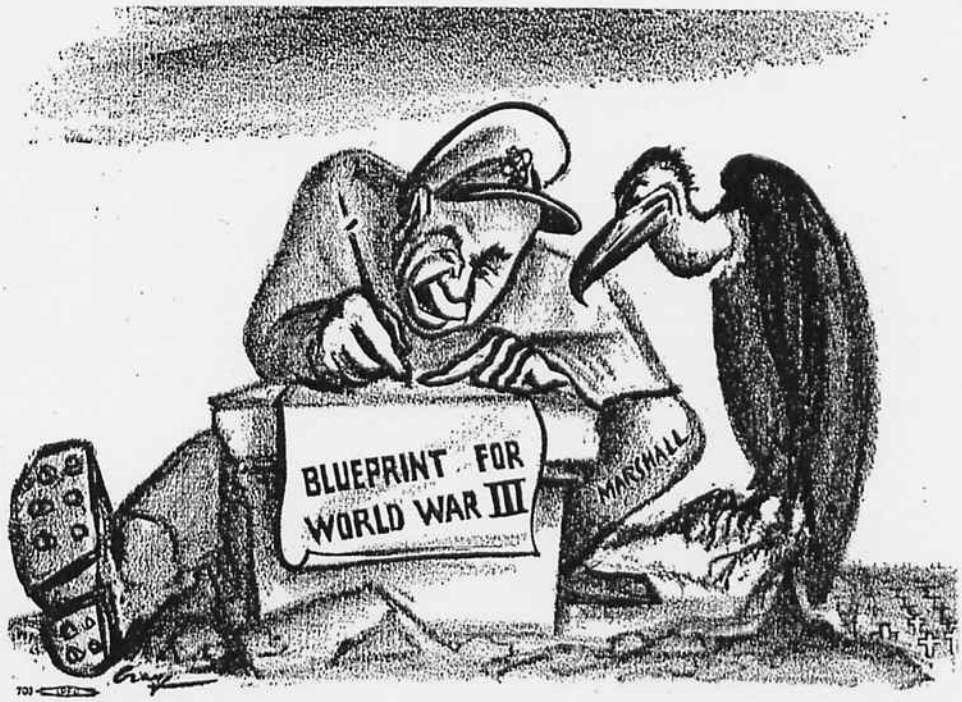
Boss organizations were of course given ample time to support the anti-labor bill. Among these were the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the National Construction Association and the Canadian Bar Association. These representatives of Big Business were all anxious to shove the bill through.

CCL and AFL bureaucrats were allowed to speak, but they voiced only restrained protest on some clauses. Leaders of the Canadian Catholic Federation of Labor took the floor in support of the bill. The Canadian Federation of Labor, a company-union outfit, was also given a hearing.

Many labor organizations which understood the ominous nature of the bill and vigorously condemned it, including such organizations as the United Steelworkers of Toronto and Hamilton, the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, the Canadian Seamen's Union, the Ontario Federation of Labor, and others, were kept out, as was the Labor Progressive Party.

But despite the rigged hearing, the rank and file workers of Canada had made their opposition known. Bay Street's pirates, worried also by the American miners' defience of the Taft-Hartley bill, reluctantly decided to postpone Bill 338 until the next session of Parliament.

WHAT THE MARSHALL PLAN MEANS



08-01-1

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(42) Mid-July & August 1947

STRIKES AND DEMONSTRATIONS ROCK THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

By PAUL KANE

The new Italian cabinet led by Premier De Gasperi is already staggering in crisis. It has no stability because it is opposed by both the Stalinists and the Nenni-Socialists. This is the first time since the liberation that any party dared to set up a cabinet without the "working class left." Their exclusion took place only as it became obvious that Wall Street's aid was assured and that both the SP and CP would limit their struggles to merely win a return to the cabinet and this by "peaceful means."

One of the first measures of the De Gasperi new "Black" government was the lifting of the price of bread. In Naples the police broke up a demonstration of 6,000 people protesting this vicious attack on their starvation living standards.

In Sicily the fascist terror wave continues. Over 6,000,000 members of the Italian General Confederation of Labor staged a country-wide half hour strike protesting the attacks on Communist Party headquarters.

At Venice a speech by De Gasperi brought a powerful counter demonstration by the workers. New strikes have broken out in Genoa, Turin, Bari, Piedmont and Rome. None of the official working class parties takes the responsibility for any of these demonstrations. They have erupted outside of the parties' control.

The De Gasperi government has so far found a base in all of the parties of the right—from the Liberals to the Monarchists and the fascistic Common Man Front. But even this unity is of a tenuous character. It is to be explained not by their common point of view on the problems of the hour, but by the expulsion of the Left from the government and the absolute and urgent need for Italian economy to be refloated by American aid if capitalism is to remain in the saddle.

The discussions in the Assembly have not been concerned with the program of the government. Above all else the Stalinist and Social Democratic oppositions fight the cabinet because of their exclusion, protesting against the intrusion of the United States and accusing the Christian Democrats of having provoked an artificial crisis. Their most violent attacks have been centered on the corruption of one or two ministers. This shows on what pitiful grounds they intend to fight the new cabinet.

It has been difficult for the Social Democrats and Stalinists to criticize the program of the government, because its program does not fundamentally differ from those of the preceding "coalition governments" of which they themselves were part and parcel. All of these had proved to be miserable failures. The setback now being undergone by the workers' parties has put into doubt the entire past policy of "tripartism," of working class and capitalist class party coalition cabinets.

The lack of firmness of the re-

(Continued on Page 3)

NOTICE

The shop in which Labor Challenge is printed will shut down for a two-week summer holiday. Therefore, we are compelled to skip the August issue. All subscribers will receive their full number of issues.

08-01-2

PROTESTING HIGH PRICES IN ITALY

Mass strikes are again breaking out in Italy, with the recent increase in the price of bread. This photo, taken last year, shows a housewife protesting to an official, against the hardships caused by soaring prices.

STRIKES AND DEMONSTRATIONS ROCK THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

(Continued from page 1)

formist leadership during the recent government crisis and the contradictory trends in the party have provoked a crisis in the PSLI (Saragat-led Socialists). It is rumored that the leader of the left wing of PSLI and head of the youth section, Leo Solari will probably resign. In the Nenni led party of social democracy even greater opposition is growing between the majority tendency led by rightist Basso and that led by Nenni himself.

In the Communist (Stalinist) party, under the pressure of discontent of the rank and file and the developments flowing from the Marshall Plan, Togliatti has been compelled to modify his "soft policy." He now suggests that to obtain their objectives "peaceful means might not be sufficient" . . . "It all depends on how the situation develops."

It is evident that for the Stalinists it is a clear case of struggling against the complete subordination of Italy to the U.S., not to allow as they say, the "balkanization" of the country. In this sense they cannot accept elimination from the government.

U.S. aid will never be great enough nor rapid enough to permit De Gasperi to effectively solve his problem in the atmosphere of continued battle. He is faced with an extremely precarious situation in all fields; inflation, unemployment, distribution of food, need for industrial revival, etc.

Strikes and militant protests, which have been held in by the Stalinists and Social Democrats until now, will take on a growing importance. Italy is entering a period of social battles, strikes, agitation and demonstration which will mark a noticeable return of the working class to direct struggle against the capitalists.

Trotskyists Urge Labor Party As Answer to Taft-Hartley Law

The American workers must build a labor party to fight for their rights on the political field, the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyist) declared on July 5, in a statement lashing the Taft-Hartley bill.

The SWP, which had urged a 24-hour general strike to stop the bill, points out that the Democratic and Republican parties united behind the "slave act." This law "violates the Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution in a way not equaled since the notorious and short-lived 'Alien and Sedition Act' of 1798," the statement says. "It bans thoughts about communism dangerous to Wall Street's rule, in the same way that the Japanese military dictatorship banned "dangerous thoughts'."

WANT TO FIGHT

The 15,000,000 organized workers in the U.S. wanted to fight passage of the bill with every means at their command, including the general strike. But the union leadership, the Murrays and Greens, "believed it possible to sweep back the reactionary tide with a paper broom of telegrams and petitions."

The Taft-Hartley bill, the SWP warns, is Wall Street's declaration of total war against labor. The billionaire monopolists "mean to continue, at any cost, their control of the national economy and to exploit its resources and labor power for their own exclusive benefit," and drive the workers into war for world domination.

The bill bans political action by unions. It even forbids union publications to report the political records of legislators! But the mighty giant of American labor, the SWP points out, has never timidly knuckled under to oppressive decrees.

"In the heroic tradition of the Sons of Liberty and the Abolitionists, labor today will fight against the Taft-Hatley bill with evey weapon at its command, on evey front . . .. fight on the picket lines, fight in the courts, and above all, fight on the main arena—the field of politics."

To initiate the building of the labor party, the SWP calls for "A National United Labor Conference of representatives of all unions, with full rank and file representation." The Conference should put first on its agenda "the complete break of the unions from the capitalist parties and the launching of the Labor Party."

As slogans for the Conference it proposes: "A Labor Slate in '48! Put Labor in the White House! No one in Congress not controlled by labor!"

The workers cannot rely upon the labor bureaucrats to initiate this move. "They must depend on themselves. There are thousands of courageous, tested and far-sighted fighters in the ranks of the unions. They are the backbone of the shop committees, the picket line captains, the men and women who stood firm in times of storm and stress.

"These are the men and women who must forge a new leadership; a leadership imbued with courage and devotion and class consciousness. This leadership must be prepared to meet the great political tasks confronting the American working class."

08_01-3

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(42) Mid-July & August 1947

Over Top with 1267 Subs In Labor Challenge Drive

By JOE ROSE

The successful conclusion of our three-month campaign for 1250 new readers, marks a great step forward for revolutionary socialism in Canada. It brings *Labor Challenge* to the homes of 1267 more workers in the major centers of the country. And the enthusiasm with which the paper has been taken by these subscribers, shows clearly that **Labor Challenge** is being recognized as the labor paper that consistently fights for the interests of the working class.

Returns are not yet final as we go to press. More subs are on the way from members of the Revolutionary Workers Party who are working right up to the July 15 deadline, to swell the total.

Even though incomplete, the reports on hand show that the RWP has done a splendid job everywhere. The Toronto Branch added 219 subs to its total in the last two weeks of the campaign, giving it a tally of 759. Comrades outdid themselves in pushing the drive over the top. A member who has been in the party less than a week, "worked overtime" to roll up 24 subs in a single afternoon.

The Vancouver branch, which has been piling up subs steadily throughout the campaign, sent in another 57 to raise its total to 316. The campaign manager informs us that another rally is being held as we go to press.

We also received 20 more subs from other parts of B.C., two more from isolated comrades on the Prairies, and 18 more from Ontario comrades who shot their total up to 68. These comrades deserve special credit for their enthusiastic response to our campaign and their hard work in introducing the paper to new areas.

The prize for the highest subgetter, a rare book by Leon Trotsky, "The Problems of the Chinese Revolution," inspired a real competitive spirit. The race has been a close one all along. Barring any last-minute "upsets" in the individual scores, the standings are as follows:

Joe Rose is in the lead by a narrow margin, with 130 subs. Close behind are Paul Kane with 123 subs, Mary Wood with 118 subs, and Sonia Rosenthal—who appears among the pace-setters for the first time—with 90 subs. Incomplete reports from Vancouver show Courtenay Gray with 83 and Lloyd Whalen with 81. Both stand an excellent chance of moving into the front rank, with the last rally.

Here is the scoreboard as of July 15:

Toronto	759
Vancouver	316
Prairies	51
B.C.	63
Ontario	68
Quebec	10
TOTAL	1267

05-01-4

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE (43) Mid-August 1947

08-15-1a

CCF'S RECORD IN SASKATCHEWAN — A WARNING

By PAUL KANE

Bay Street and its public apologists and stooges, the Gladstone Murrays and the Trestrails, are jubilant these days. The ward-heelers and yes-men of the Liberal and Conservative political machine are rubbing their hands with glee as they fill the back rooms with cigar smoke and raucus laughter. The object of their malicious merriment, strange to say, is a strike.

A month ago two employees of a box factory were fired for "gross inefficiency." The International Woodworkers Union (OCL) demanded that both men be reinstated, later revising its demand that one, a former sub-foreman who had been dismissed for alleged inefficiency, be reinstated.

After a month of fruitless negotiations the plant manager dictatorially informed the union that only the one worker would be taken back and then only on a trial basis.

On Friday, July 25, all the workers except the office staff walked off the job in protest. The plant manager, familiarly known as "THE WHIP," threatened them with dismissal if they did not return the following morning; they stayed out. He thereupon fired the entire staff of 70.

Negotiations were reopened. In the midst of the negotiations a prominent government official charged the strikers with "nothing short of mutiny." A cabinet minister, the provincial treasurer, in an inflammatory attack against the union, called the strike "sabotage" and charged that it had underlying "political motives."

On August 4, after 8 days shutdown, the strikers returned to work with the dismissal of the two men referred to arbitration. As they went back to their jobs they were threatened by the Minister of Resources that they would have to produce more or the factory would be closed in three months time.

This government leader threatened the box workers with loss of their means of livelihood despite the fact that such acts are unlawful and an offense under a recently passed trade union act which "guarantees freedom from discrimination and intimidation."

Well! What is so unusual about all this? Everyone is accustomed to tryrannical managers firing workers at will and breaking off negotiations. When workers exercise their right to stop work, it is a commonplace for them to be called mutineers and their strikes labelled "sabotage." We would be amazed if any government official lined up on the side of the workers in a strike or failed to break one or a dozen laws to intimidate the workers or smash a union. What government official or what boss has failed to place the whole responsibility upon the need for work and more work from the men?

Why then should Bay Street and why should their political mouthpieces, the Liberals and the Conservatives, view all this with malicious satisfaction? Why should their pen prostitutes fill the daily press with columns of editorials on a dispute that affects only 70 workers?

Because this vicious anti-working class episode took place in the province of Saskatchewan. The government is the one that the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF), in moments of jubilation, calls "the first socialist government on the North American continent" . . . "the laboratory for democratic socialism in the New World."

The box factory is one of 13 publicly owned industries in Saskatchewan. The tyrannical boss is a hireling of a CCF government that has 47 out of 52 seats in the House. The officials who vilified the strikers and the union in typical capitalist fashion are leading CCFers and members of a CCF cabinet. The law that they violated is the recently passed Trade Union Act which the CCF has hailed "as a model for the world."

Not one of the several CCF weekly papers has printed a line on the strike. The Stalinist **Daily Tribune** joined in this treacherous pact to spread a fog of silence over the whole episode.

It was the mouth-pieces of the monopolists and profiteers that told what took place in Saskatchewan. They did so only in the hope that the exposure would tear the thousands of workers who support the CCF away from it and turn them back into the blind alley of capitalist politics. The CCF leadership provided them with the ammunition.

The journalistic lackeys of Bay Street shed bitter tears for the fate of the workers under "socialism". The Toronto **Globe and Mail** cries—see: "under Socialism all unions become sooner or later in effect company unions." Fortunately for the working class the Saskatchewan affair proves no such thing.

It proves not the bankruptcy of socialism but the bankruptcy of the CCF. It must serve as a warning to the workers of the perfidy of the CCF leaders and the falseness of their program.

The Saskatchewan CCF leaders have been chafing for some time now under what they call "labor's irresponsibility." CCF MPP Benson has periodically chastized labor "because of its unreasonable demands." Saskatchewan's Premier and idol of the CCF, "Tommy" Douglas, in a cringing speech before the convention of that power house of reaction, the Canadian Manufacturer's Association, stated:

"I know of course that people come to me from time to time and say that labor sometimes is irresponsible. Of course that is true. But you will pardon my saying that management has sometimes been irresponsible too." —(Sask. CCF Commonwealth, June 4, 1947.)

What is the nature of this so called "unreasonableness?" The tiny Saskatchewan labor movement of 23,000 is not satisfied with the CCF brand of socialism.

The CCF Hours and Work Act put into effect this year, includes, besides the 75 per cent workmen's compensation, the 44-hour week. Asked for his opinion of the Act, W. E. Cooks, secretary of the Regina Trades and Labor Council, bluntly stated that "It doesn't mean anything." There were too many exemptions, he said.

The CCL, which has endorsed the CCF as its political arm, last year included a demand for the 40-hour week when it launched its wage drive against Big Business.

While labor disparaged the much touted act, H. L. McClennan, secretary manager of the Saskatchewan Employers Association, said that the majority of employers would not object to the legislation; big employers would be least affected by it. The national organ of the CCF boasts that Wall Street has great confidence in its rule by pointing to the fact that five per cent government bonds selling at 91½ two years ago were selling

(Continued on Page 2)

08_15_16

SASKATCHEWAN CCF'S RECORD IS A WARNING TO WORKERS

(Continued from Page 1)

this March, after 3 years of CCF rule, at 116.

The Ontario CCF leader declared a short while ago that "It will tax the ingenuity of our members to keep in sight their objectives and at the same time do a good job as doctor and caretaker of the present system." The Saskatchewan leadership is working overtime as doctor and caretaker of capitalism in that province.

Douglas shamelessly confessed to the CMA that the government went into competition with capitalism with the woolen mill and shoe factory because "nobody else would do it." He continued, "Some of these are fields which more properly belong to private enterprise and we would be glad to see private enterprise coming into these fields. They are lucrative fields, worthy of industrial development, worthy of investment."

This shameless doctor of capitalism had no need to apologize for his government's nationalizations. Of the thirteen government enterprises, seven have operated at a considerable loss.

The CCF has been careful to nationalize only those fields where Big Business had little interest in risking capital; industries which if extended to service the needs of the populace would provide small or no profits; or businesses such as the box factory, which if compelled to grant decent wages and conditions would have become insolvent. Douglas has promised to leave "the lucrative fields," those fields which provide the greatest opportunities, to the profiteers to exploit the people.

FACING A DILEMMA

This betrayal is rapidly hurtling the whole CCF economic program into a dilemma—a dilemma which makes the most modest demands of the trade unions unreasonable in the jaundiced eyes of the CCF administrators.

All of the progressive legislation enacted by the CCF, the hospital plan, the accident insurance, etc., is in grave danger. In presenting the last budget, Treasurer Fines confessed, "I anticipate that the revenues of the province will not enable us to go any further in the extension of social services and economic development unless the legislature is prepared to find some new source of revenue."

The whole structure of CCF reforms is based on taxation, which in turn is based on the temporarily increased income of the people. Socialism through taxation is a fantastic myth. Not only will the CCF be unable to extend its legislation but it is threatened even on its present limited basis with a sharp curtailment, as wartime prosperity dissipates.

TAXING THE POOR

This taxation is levelled most viciously against the poor farmers and the working class. The CCF government has retained the notorious Liberal-imposed two per cent sales tax known as the Educational Tax. This tax has been removed from food but remains on most other articles and raised more than one eighth of last year's budget. The hospitalization plan is financed by a head tax of $5 on every man, woman and child. The compulsory accident insurance program is financed by doubling the charge for operators' license, plus a $5 tax on private cars and medium size trucks and slightly more for large commercial vehicles.

The revenue for all this legislation has to come from the pockets of the same persons who are to subsequently receive its benefits. There is no tax-the-rich policy in Saskatchewan.

Thirteen industries have been nationalized in the name of the people. The box factory was purchased for the outrageous sum of $71,597.00 from its owners who had only a short time previously sold it to its manager for $11,000. This nationalization saddled the enterprise with a colossal debt.

After the nationalization, did the workers in their unions take over the factory and administer it in the interests of the people? No, they only changed masters. A business manager administers it and the union is compelled to struggle in the defense of the workers as before, this time against the CCF government.

STORM WARNING

The Prince Albert strike is a storm warning to the Canadian working class. The partial reforms and patchwork of the CCF will do no good. The only road to socialism is the program of the Revolutionary Workers Party:

Nationalize the monopolies without compensation!

Trade union control of the nationalized industries!

Tax the rich, not the poor!

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(43) Mid-Aug. 1947

Canada Signs Pact With Greece As Terror Mounts

By JOE ROSE

The hated Tsaldaris dictatorship of Greece, its hands bloody with the assassination of thousands of workers, has now been put on Canada's "most-favored" customer list.

The Department of External Affairs announced from Ottawa on July 29, that negotiations have been completed between Greece and Canada for a customs agreement that will enable Greece to buy goods here at the lowest duty rate.

Government officials also hinted that Canada may be a source of supply for military equipment to Greece and Turkey, purchased with U.S. funds.

Thus the Canadian capitalists are directly aiding the wholesale butchery of Greek workers, and bolstering up the reactionary monarchist government.

16,000 ARRESTED

The Greek regime last month unleashed a monstrous attack on the masses, unparalleled for ferocity. The campaign of terror extends over practically the whole territory controlled by the monarchists.

By July 22 the number arrested had grown to 16,000. Among the prisoners are trade unionists and militant workers of every political tendency — Socialists, Stalinists, Trotskyists, and even some elements of the democratic capitalist opposition.

The Internationalist Communist Party (Trotskyist) suffered many losses. Thirteen of its members were deported to desert islands in the Aegean Sea. Three others, two of whom are girl students, will go on trial for having been present at an "illegal" meeting.

One of the leaders of the Greek Trotskyist movement has been spirited away and it is feared that he has been assassinated by members of a Fascist organization.

Those arrested are either packed into overcrowded prisons or sent to languish in exile. Courts martial are operating incessantly, meting out death sentences. In the month of June alone, 100 executions took place. Among the victims was the

(Continued on Page 3)

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Canada Signs Pact With Greece As Terror Mounts

(Continued from page 1)

eighth woman to be executed by the military courts this year.

In spite of the unprecedented repression, mass resistance to the hated regime is growing. The government would have been swept away long ago, except for the aid of British, American and Canadian capitalism. Almost daily, it demands more money and more arms for its war against the people.

The struggle of the Greek masses against their oppressors is one with the struggle of the Canadian workers against the capitalists at home.

The Bay Street capitalists in bolstering reaction in Europe, also bolster it in Canada. Anti-labor legislation and skyrocketing prices attest to that.

The Canadian workers must raise their voices in solidarity with their class brothers in Europe. They must demand a halt to Canada's aid to the Greek butchers.

Montreal Readers

For further information about Labor Challenge and the Revolutionary Workers Party, write
LABOR CHALLENGE,
BOX 1482,
MONTREAL, QUE.

08-15-3

French Trotskyist Youth Group Appeals to Expelled Socialists

By MURRAY DOWSON

On April 5-7 this year, the youth section of the Parti Communiste Internationaliste, French section of the Fourth International, held its first national convention. The foundation of the Jeunesse Communiste Internationaliste was an important milestone on the road to building a new revolutionary youth international.

The reports of this meeting carried in **La Jeune Garde** (Youth Guard), the attractive organ of the JCI, indicate the seriousness and high political level of the delegates who came from all over France. Its documents on the struggle against militarism and war and in aid of the colonial peoples, breathe the spirit of Karl Liebknecht, the founder of the revolutionary youth movement.

Now from Paris, to demonstrate how fast and favorably events are moving in the direction of the Fourth International, comes more news about the JCI. At a meeting of its Central Committe, a few weeks ago, a resolution proposing fusion with the Socialist Youth was adopted. In the last few months startling developments have taken place in the latter organization. The Socialist Youth have clashed with the leadership of the Socialist Party because of the treacherous policy of the adult organization.

These events began last Easter at the Montrouge convention of youth section of the Socialist Party. The convention was attended by about 1,000 delegates representing 50,000 young workers. They adopted a series of resolutions which, although not revolutionary, were considerably to the left of the policy followed by the SP and its Ministers in the government. The SP leaders forbade the publication of these resolutions and the youth leadership began by giving in.

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NO RETREAT

But the development of the situation in France left no room for such a retreat. The leaders of the youth were being pushed into the struggle by an overwhelming majority of the Socialist Youth membership. At the demonstration to commemorate the Paris Commune last May, young socialists publicly booed the SP members of the government. They listened attentively to the speakers of the PCI and even picked up some of their slogans.

The SP leadership, including most of the so-called "left-wingers," decided on June 4 to dissolve the youth's National Bureau. This is the traditional bureaucratic way of proceeding to expulsions. The National Bureau replied by a statement categorically rejecting the SP National Committee decision to dissolve it.

Listing a long series of attacks, slanders and organizational measures by the SP leadership against the youth, their statement traces the struggle to an attempt to prohibit the youth from exercising a revolutionary policy.

The statement declared that the SP National Committee "leads the offensive against the Socialist Youth who unconditionally support the workers' struggles, who fight for immediate peace with Viet Nam, who demand a massive reduction in military credits, who oppose the bourgeois governmental coalition and the anti-labor policy of the Ramadier government."

The National Bureau has refused to recognize the right of the SP National Committee to dissolve it. The youth leadership, it says, "continues to fulfill the mandate it received at the Montrouge convention," and it will not give any one else the right to lead the organization until the Socialist Youth's next convention.

The Bureau also rejected with well-deserved contempt the proposition made by Guy Mollet, "left" Socialist leader, to permit the Bureau members to remain if they would sign a "declaration of fidelity."

The National Bureau statement ended by calling on the members of the Socialist Youth to organize, protest and fight inside the party against the bureaucratic measures of the SP leaders; to refuse to recognize or support any other body than the present National Bureau; and to maintain the Socalist Youth in spite of the reformists and traitors to the working class.

MOVING LEFTWARD

Since that time the crisis in France and the attempts of the "Socialist" Premier Ramadier to save capitalism at the expense of the workers have continued to push the Socialist Youth to the left. Meanwhile the Trotskyists of the PCI and JCI have been directing more and more attention towards this important leftward moving group of youth.

By their deeds in the Renault strike and the growing support their revolutionary program is winning from the workers as well as articles in their press, the French Fourth Internationalists are demonstrating to the Socialist Youth: 1. That the old corrupt and rotten SP cannot be reformed. 2. That together with the PCI and JCI, on the basis of the program of the Fourth International, the working class can find the revolutionary road out of capitalist misery.

But not only in France are the youth again proving that they are the most militant section of the working class. In Italy the socialist youth are in ferment. And the youth of the Spanish emigre socialist party are also sharply questioning the reformist policy of their adult leaders. In at least a half a dozen other European countries the young workers are moving away from the class collaboration politics of the old "Socialist" leaders.

The Fourth International will unite them around its revolutionary program. With all the spirit, selflessness, and honesty of youth, they will transform this program into victory.

PCI Calls For Revolutionary Unity

La Verite, central organ of the Parti Communiste Internationaliste, has issued an appeal for revolutionary unity to the left opposition which is developing in the Socialist and Stalinist parties, and to the Socialist Youth.

Calling attention to the recent strikes, in which important layers of workers broke through the class-collaboration policy of the two old parties, the Trotskyist statement calls upon the left groups to build together the mass party of the French working class. To such an effort, the PCI pledges the energies of its hundreds of devoted militants, its tested program, and the fraternal support of the more than 30 sections affiliated to the Fourth International.

INTERNATIONAL COMMENT

The Hertzog government of Bolivia is trying to stamp out Trotskyism by suppression and terror. **Lucha Obrera** (Workers' Struggle), organ of the Partido Obrero Revolucionario (Revolutionary Workers Party) has been banned. Police have broken into the homes of leading party members. A number of Trotskyists have been jailed. Nelson Capelino, a leader of the POR at Oruro, was clubbed by police and his house wrecked.

The terror waged by the Hertzog regime shows the alarm of the big tin interests over the swift spread of Trotskyism since the rebellion last July that overthrew the Villaroel government.

The Trotskyist program has gained great popularity, especially among the men who slave in the mines. Last January a common slate run by the miners and the POR elected eight candidates to the Bolivian parliament.

Guillermo Lora, one of the leaders of the POR now in parliament, introduced a bill calling for a national sliding scale of wages, with the trade unions empowered to determine the real cost of living. "The mere report of an alteration in prices and its verification by the bosses," the bill concludes, "shall oblige the companies to raise wages at once in the proportion called for."

* * *

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE
(43) Mid-Aug. 1947

08-15-4

HEAR TROTSKY'S VOICE!

His recorded speech (in English) on the founding of the Fourth International will be played at:

TROTSKY MEMORIAL MEETINGS

TORONTO
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ROSS DOWSON
National Secretary, RWP
LABOR LYCEUM,
348 Spadina Ave.

VANCOUVER
Sunday, Aug. 24, 8 p.m.
Speaker:
W. J. WHITNEY
Chairman: S. Stanton
ARCADIAN HALL
2214 Main (at 6th)

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1. DEFEND LABOR'S STANDARD OF LIVING.
   A sliding scale of wages—an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!
   Organize mass consumers' committees for independent action against profiteering and price gouging!
2. FULL EMPLOYMENT AND JOB SECURITY FOR ALL WORKERS AND VETERANS!
   For the 6-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of hours—reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs and unemployment!
   Nationalization of all basic and key industries and their operation under workers' control!
   Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages during the entire period of unemployment!
3. AGAINST ALL ANTI-LABOR LAWS AND GOVERNMENT STRIKEBREAKING!
   No restrictions on the right to strike and picket!
   No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!
4. TAX THE RICH—NOT THE POOR!
   No taxes on incomes under $3,000 a year! Repeal the payroll tax! No sales taxes!
5. A BILLION DOLLAR APPROPRIATION FOR GOVERNMENT LOW-RENT HOUSING!
6. AGAINST ANY AND ALL FORMS OF RACIAL PREJUDICE OR NATIONAL OPPRESSION!
   Full democratic rights for the French Canadians!
7. A WORKING CLASS ANSWER TO CAPITALIST MILITARISM AND WAR
   Take the war-making powers away from Parliament! Let the people vote on the question of war or peace!
   Against capitalist conscription!
   Full democratic rights in the armed forces!
   Abolish the officer caste system!
   Trade union wages for the armed forces!
8. FOR A VETERANS ORGANIZATION SPONSORED BY THE TRADE UNIONS!
9. SOLIDARITY WITH THE REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES OF THE WORKERS IN ALL LANDS!
   For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!
10. INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS POLITICAL ACTION!
    Establish the workers and farmers government!

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PAGE THREE)

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party — Canadian Section, Fourth International

15 (44) — TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1947 — PRICE: 5 Ce

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INA REVOLUTIONISTS LESSONS OF STRUGGLE

Special to Labor Challenge

eceived from Indo-China that on July 8, 1947, theses ndo-Chinese revolution were adopted by the Pro- mmittee of the League of International Communists, st groups fighting in the Viet Nam for liberation alism.

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all the class interests of the capitalists and the landlords.

"Defense of private property, including French imperialist property, defense of national integrity, of a bourgeois parliament, finances, customs based on the bourgeois model, with an army, a police, a bureaucracy destined to guarantee private property, all were crowned by a policy of establishing an independent bourgeois economy as

Drive Launched to Raise $1750 for Labor Challenge

On September 1, **Labor Challenge** opens its annual campaign for funds. This year we are calling on our readers and supporters to aid us raise $1,750. This is the minimum amount required to meet the monthly deficit of our paper for the next period. To stabilize **Labor Challenge's** financial base, extend its circulation and influence, we must raise $1,750 by November 15.

Today, **Labor Challenge** has the largest paid circulation since its first appearance a little over two years ago. This is the result of our successful subscription drive.

The hundreds of new readers of **Labor Challenge** can see from the few issues that they have already received that this is a different type of paper. Like our old subscribers, they can recognize **Labor Challenge** as the paper that tells the truth. Fearlessly and without favor it fights in the interests of the Canadian workers and poor farmers and the oppressed of all lands.

Labor Challenge must continue to come out regularly to expose the war-mongers and show the workers the road out of the capitalist world which threatens humanity with destruction in a new war waged with frightful germs and atomic bombs.

Labor Challenge not only exposes the swollen profits of Big Business and its inflationary price attack on real wages. It is the only paper that shows the way how to defend labor's standard of living. The slogan of **Labor Challenge:** for a sliding scale of wages, for the organization of mass consumers' committees, and a $1 billion government low-rent housing appropriation, must be brought before thousands more Canadian workers in the next year.

More trade unionists are recognizing the fact that **Labor Challenge** is an indispensable weapon in their struggle for higher wages, better conditions, against anti-labor laws and government strike-breaking, for a militant program and leadership, against bureaucracy and red-baiting.

We need your support to keep **Labor Challenge** appearing twice-monthly, bringing its keen scientific socialist analysis of national and international political events, and the news of the struggle of the workers throughout the world for socialism.

Subscriptions to **Labor Challenge,** priced to fit the workers' pocket, pay but a small part of our production and mailing costs. Unlike the lying boss press, **Labor Challenge** carries no high priced advertising of the monopolists. We depend on your support alone!

This is your opportunity to show in deeds that you stand for a workers' world of security, freedom, and plenty for all. Send your contribution to **Labor Challenge,** 87 King St. W., Room 5, Toronto 1, Ontario. Help **Labor Challenge** put its campaign for $1,750 over the top before November 15. Act now!

Solidarity With Indonesia

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(44) September 1947

09-01-2

INDO-CHINA REVOLUTIONISTS EXAMINE LESSONS OF STRUGGLE

Special to Labor Challenge

Word has been received from Indo-China that on July 8, 1947, theses dealing with the Indo-Chinese revolution were adopted by the Provisional Central Committee of the League of International Communists, one of the Trotskyist groups fighting in the Viet Nam for liberation from French imperialism.

The Fourth International also announces that the emigre Indo-Chinese Internationalist Communists in France—workers, soldiers, and students—held their first national congress on the second anniversary of the August, 1945 Vietnamese revolution, with the purpose of building a revolutionary party both among the Indo-Chinese workers in emigration in France, and in Indo-China.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENT

The document of the League of Internationalist Communists explains the group's position on the revolution, and analyzes the present stage in the fight for independence.

"August, 1945, sounding the death knell of Japanese domination," the statement says, "marked the birth of the Viet Nam revolution." This revolution was "born in the vacuum" created by the disaster which befell Japanese imperialism while the Allies were still unable to reimpose their rule.

The causes of its birth were classic: the slavery of the Indo-Chinese people under French imperialism, unlimited misery and suffering caused by the war (two million died of famine in Tonkin in 1945), advanced political education of the masses who became awakened to the inferiority of French imperialism in the face of its disaster before German as well as Japanese imperialism—and the organization of the Viet Minh movement.

"The Viet Nam revolution involved all classes and social layers" and all organizations of the Viet Nam people, the theses declare. Saigon and Hanoi witnessed monster demonstrations involving more than a million participants. **"The Viet Nam revolution was truly national and popular. It established the democratic Viet Nam republic with its own government, its national assembly, its army, its finances."**

But the government is dominated by the policy of the Indo-Chinese Communist (Stalinist) Party, the strongest and best organized of all the parties composing the Viet Minh. Its aim is to defend above all the class interests of the capitalists and the landlords.

"Defense of private property, including French imperialist property, defense of national integrity, of a bourgeois parliament, finances, customs based on the bourgeois model, with an army, a police, a bureaucracy destined to guarantee private property, all were crowned by a policy of establishing an independent bourgeois economy as against the vested interests of the imperialist economy.

"For the immense mass of the impoverished peasantry, the Stalinist dominated government does nothing, or almost nothing. There was some reform of the system of tenant farming, but private landed property remains sacred and inalienable. As to the working class, as yet weak, a few labor laws were legislated for it."

POLICY FAILS

Since the Viet Nam bourgeoisie is inseparably linked with the French imperialists, the policy of the Viet Nam republic proved to be a failure. Economic and political independence have proved to be nothing but a chimera. The agrarian revolution was declared a crime. Thus neither of the two great tasks of the bourgeois revolution could be carried out. Both were sabotaged by the Stalinists.

In effect the Stalinists practiced a policy of capitulation before the imperialists. After the defeat of Japan they seized power in Tonkin and declared themselves allies of the "democratic" imperialists. They tried to spread the illusion that the British imperialists whom they welcomed with open arms, would give them independence as a gift, as promised in the Atlantic Charter. They were quickly disillusioned when General Garcey opened the gates of Nam Bo in Cochin China to the first troops of General Leclerc, armed by Great Britain for the reconquest of Indo-China.

MASSES RESIST

The Viet Nam masses awoke as if by instinct, armed themselves and organized into People's Militias

(Continued on page 2)

INDO-CHINA REVOLUTIONISTS EXAMINE LESSONS OF STRUGGLE

(Continued from Page 1)

and Revolutionary People's Committees. The peasants began to seize the land, the workers the factories and the principal French establishments. All these revolutionary measures had been prohibited by the Stalinist ministers in the government.

The arming of the people was declared a Trotskyist provocation against the Allies. The Revolutionary Committees, the slogans of land to the peasants and the factories to the workers were likewise condemned as Trotskyist provocations. "The Stalinist leaders were opposed to all popular initiative which could have assured national liberation and the agrarian revolution," the document says.

The enemies of the Stalinists "were not the imperialists but the defenders of the toiling people, the partisans of the Fourth International," it concludes. Numerous militants of the Fourth International were physically exterminated; the Stalinists had to seek the liquidation of the Indo-Chinese Trotskyists as an indispensable measure for maintaining themselves in power and keeping up their flirtation with the imperialists.

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WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(44) Sept. 1947

09-01-3

GERMAN CONVENTION FOUNDS A NEW TROTSKYIST SECTION

The first national conference of German Trotskyists since 1933 met "somewhere in Western Germany" last month. Delegates representing local groups in many parts of the country took part in the discussions which aimed at the reorganization and centralization of the forces of the Fourth International in Germany.

The conference met after months of intensive preparations and despite unimaginable difficulties and obstacles. The first steps toward the establishment of a unified organization acting under the centralized direction of an elected leadership were successfully carried out.

The agenda consisted of four points: an international report, a report on German perspectives and tasks, a discussion of the Russian question, and an organizational report.

For the first time, the German Trotskyists received a comprehensive report of the developments in the Fourth International movement since 1933 and of the situation today.

On the question of perspectives and tasks, a thorough discussion took place, in which the difficulties as well as the opportunities facing the Trotskyists in present-day Germany were gone into. A platform to guide the action of the German section of the Fourth International is in preparation and will be submitted to further discussion, both national and international, before adoption.

The Russian question was discussed in the light of the experiences with the Soviet occupation forces. Great interest centered on this question, but the shortness of time did not permit the delegates to conclude the discussion, and it was decided to continue it within the local groups for further elaboration before a definite position is adopted.

The conference adopted the old pre-1933 name of the organization, "International Communists of Germany, Section of the Fourth International." A provisional National Executive Committee was elected, representative of the main regions in Germany.

The conference also decided to publish an official organ, **Unser Weg**. An editorial board of three was elected to publish the paper. The first issue of **"Unser Weg"** has already appeared. The leading article deals with the food crisis in Germany. Another article is entitled "Socialist or Stalinist Peace Policy" and contrasts the policy of the Kremlin today with that pursued in Lenin's and Trotsky's day. International news and a discussion supplement complete the issue. The paper, published in mimeographed form and distributed throughout all of the western zones, represents a signal achievement in view of the extreme difficulties under which the German Trotskyists have to work.

Other measures to extend the organization, to tighten contacts and

(Continued on Page 2)

Convention Founds New German Party

(Continued from Page 1)

to penetrate the mass movement, were adopted.

The first national conference of the reorganized section of the Fourth International in Germany is an achievement of which the entire International can be proud. In spite of the greatest difficulties and hardships, Trotskyism has once again taken its place as an organized force in the great industrial heart of Europe after the long years of fascist reaction, war and foreign occupation.

Report Major Split In Indian S.P.

BOMBAY, July 21—A major split has occurred in the ranks of the Kerala (South India) unit of the All-India Socialist Party. Entire branches in Cochin and Malabar have dropped out of the organization, and many prominent SP members in Travancore have resigned from the party. Among them is the treasurer of the Kerala Unit, who financed practically all of the SP's activities in the south from his own pocket.

He is now in touch with the Bolshevik Leninist Party of India (Trotskyists) and states that a number of these disillusioned SPers are eager to form a branch of the Fourth International party.

The Malayalam daily, **Mathrubhum**, reports that the split was occasioned by a speech by the leader of the South Kerala Socialist Party, Dr. K. B. Menon, in which he denied that the Kerala SP had or could have any existence apart from the All-India Party.

It is further stated, however, that the splitters disagree with the SP leaders' "neutral" attitude to the Mountbatten Award and with their decision to break from the Stalinist-controlled All-India Trade Union Congress and form separate unions under SP control.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE (44) SEPTEMBER 1947

09-01-4a

THE HERITAGE OF LEON TROTSKY

Excerpts from Memorial Address by Ross Dowson, RWP National Secretary

Seven years ago, at the beginning of the Second Imperialist World War, our great leader and teacher, Leon Trotsky, perished at the hands of a Stalinist assassin.

Seven years have passed. The hell of the Belsen concentration camp and the horrors of the greatest atrocity committed in the history of mankind, the atomic destruction of the men, women and children of Nagasaki and Hiroshima are beginning to slip into the past. The unimaginable destruction and havoc wrought by the world's rulers is fading from memory in the face of new threats of more terrifying massacres and destruction.

R. DOWSON

No one is deceived—the world is poised on the brink of disaster. The hearts of the people of the world are filled with doubt and fears for the future.

The insatiable appetites of the Wall Street profiteers and their Canadian partners drive them forward in the preparation of atomic stock piles and underground war factories. Their furious drive for strategic bases and zones of influence has cleaved the world into two vast armed camps. The Stalinist bureaucracy stands face to face with Wall Street over the ruins and impoverishment of Europe. The fate of the USSR has been placed in the balance by the opportunist and counter-revolutionary policies of the Kremlin clique which have alienated the sympathies of large strata of the world working class.

Already our ears catch the rumblings of a devastating and world shaking economic crisis. The medicine men of Bay Street fill the air with their incantations but cannot drown it out. As each month passes by they shout hosannas and attempt to boost their own morale. But economic forces beyond their control are driving the world towards a devastating depression. There is no debate on this question. The only unknowns are when, its scope, and duration.

It is this extreme crisis that confronts society that justifies our taking time tonight to memorialize our noble and illustrious dead . . . Leon Trotsky. We do so as a means of preparing and organizing the struggle of the living for the goal which he pointed out to us.

Trotsky died when a pick-axe wielded by a Stalinist assassin tore through his brain. But his voice continues to ring out its inspiring message to all the oppressed. In Trotsky's works and the example of his struggles, lies the hope and salvation of mankind.

→ To Page 2

LEON TROTSKY

The Magnificent Fighter

(A Tribute to the Memory of Leon Trotsky)

Never, since history began,
Was such a struggle waged by man,
Nor so much won as in the span
He fought.

A tortured world of misery
Writhed round him; scourged with calumny,
To liberate humanity
He fought.

Against innumerable odds,
Deep disillusionment, the squads
Of fascists, and the labor frauds,
He fought.

The rampant chauvinistic flood
Stained not his banner with its mud;
To keep it red as workers' blood
He fought.

His struggle stamps the finest page
In labor's glorious heritage;
Foremost of Marx's lineage
He fought.

And we, through him who bathed in day
Our eyes, and steeled our red array,
Shall triumph, if we fight the way
He fought.

—*Barrie Bernarde.*

09_01-46

REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH

Comrade Trotsky's entire conscious life from the time he entered the workers' movement in Nikolaiev at the age of 18 up until the moment of his death in Mexico City 42 years later, was completely dedicated to work and struggle for one central idea. He stood for the emancipation of the workers and all the oppressed people of the world and the transformation of society from capitalism to socialism by means of a social revolution. In his entire conscious life Comrade Trotsky never once diverged from that idea. He never doubted it and never ceased to struggle for its realization.

He fought for it when as a young man of 26 years he became president of the first workers' and peasants' soviet in Petrograd during the revolution of 1905. He remained true to it in his long years of exile that followed the defeat of the 1905 revolution. He struggled for its realization side by side with Lenin when he led the insurrection in Petrograd in 1917 and organized and inspired the Red Army to heroic deeds which saved the glorious October Revolution from the furious assault of world imperialism.

Trotsky's whole past and his character predestined him to become the standard bearer of the opposition against the rising bureaucracy in the USSR. His world outlook, his close contact with the Petrograd workers and his sensitivity enabled him to understand the gigantic realignment of historic forces that flowed from the ebb of the postwar revolutionary wave.

How he scorned those who became the expression of all the forces in Russian society hostile to the aims of the revolution . . . whose ambition was to use their position for their own personal welfare. His own ambition embraced a vaster purpose . . . the revolutionary emancipation of the world working class. When the Kremlin deviated from this aim he parted company with it.

He launched without hesitation and almost single handed a struggle to carve out the rot and putrification that was eating out the heart and life blood of the October Revolution.

TROTSKY'S IDEA

The main ideas of Trotsky, the ideas for which he live and died, are comparatively simple. He saw the great problen of society arising from the fact that modern industry i hampered and constricted by private ownership and its opera tion for private profit, rather than for the needs of th people. He saw that the modern productive forces have fa outgrown the artificial barriers of the national states. Thes two great contradictions are the sources of the great ills o modern society—poverty, unemployment, fascism and wa

Trotsky saw the only way out for humanity in the revo lutionary overthrow of outlived capitalism. Industry must b socialized and operated on the basis of a plan, for use and no for profit. The national antagonism of the separate capitalis states had to give way to an international federation—th Socialist United States of the World. Socialized and planne economy can produce and provide an abundance for al people . . . not only in one nation, but in all nations. Th separate socialist nations, having no need or incentive to ex ploit others, having no conflicts over markets and sphere of influence and fields of investment, no need of colonies t exploit and enslave—these separate socialist nations wil necessarily unite in peace and cooperation based on a worl wide division of labor. The strength of one nation will becom the strength of all, the scarcities of one will be made up b the plethora of others. Humanity will organize the coopera tive exchange of all the conquests of art and science for th use of all peoples of all lands.

Trotsky taught that only the workers can bring about thi revolutionary transformation. Only the working class, stand ing at the head of all the oppressed and deprived and ex ploited and enslaved—only they can do it. The workers ar the only really progressive and revolutionary class in moder society, and they are the most powerful class by virtue o their numbers and their strategic position in society. All th workers need is to become conscious of their historic interest and of their power, and to organize to make it effective.

Trotsky, the man of ideas, was himself the disciple o a still greater one . . . Marx. He built on the foundation laid by Marx and Engels. In addition he went through th great school of Lenin and learned from him. Trotsky's geniu consisted in his complete assimilation of the ideas bequeathe by Marx, Engels and Lenin. He mastered their method. H developed their ideas in modern conditions and applied then in a masterful fashion in the contemporary struggle of th proletariat.

His brain unravelled the mysteries and complexities o our epoch . . . the development of fascism, the usurpation o power in the USSR by the bureaucracy, the problems of th colonial revolution, the monstrously accelerated decay of th capitalist world and the general crisis in the revolutionar leadership of the working class.

When Stalin murdered Trotsky he struck a vicious blow at the liberating struggle of the world workers. But he failed in the long run to obtain his object. The cynical bureaucrats and their hirelings hope to solve all their problems and maintain their privileged position by the knout and the revolver. They hoped to destroy Trotskyism—the Marxist op

—to P. 3

position to Stalinism . . . by destroying Trotsky. But Trotsky worked with ideas, ideas a thousand times more powerful than terror and assassination. Hand in hand with his theoretical clarification of Marxism from the taint of Stalinist revisionism and opportunism, Trotsky tirelessly devoted himself to the building of a new revolutionary vanguard.

A PARTY IS NEEDED

Trotsky taught us that the struggle for a new social order based on human solidarity required the leadership of a party. Not a party as other parties but a thorough-going revolutionary party, a thinking and acting party, a party irreconcilably opposed to capitalism on every front and to capitalist war in particular. Such a party is required to lead the grand assault against an outlived social order.

Trotsky the titanic thinker, the leader of Russia's millions, when exiled from the USSR by the bureaucracy, began the patient work of building such a party. With great joy and satisfaction he recorded each gain. The building of the new revolutionary vanguard was undertaken under the most trying conditions, at a time when the world working class movement was undergoing a long series of defeats. Around the living Marxism, personified by Trotsky, were gathered above all those who had not been discouraged by the defeats —the most fearless and self sacrificing revolutionists.

Trotsky carefully nurtured this party along. Small and storm-tossed in the heavy seas of reaction, it met its first test in the second imperialist war. When all the traditional workers' parties including the Stalinist LPP and the CCF supported the government and pledged the people in the bloody shambles of the war, the parties of the Fourth International, Trotsky's parties, fought against the war. They continued to fight under the battle slogan first raised by Marx; Workers of the World Unite!

Its martyrs to the cause of working class internationalism number hundreds. But our Old Man built well. Today on the seventh anniversary of Trotsky's death there are active and flourishing parties. In over 30 countries the Fourth International has sections or strong groups.

THE WORKERS MOVE

When the Fourth International was founded in 1938, Trotsky in the speech that you will hear tonight, predicted that it would number millions within its ranks in the next 10 years. Faint hearts and sarcastic critics on the 9th year of this prediction ask us where these millions are. Like petty shopkeepers they demand that this prediction be payable on a certain date like a bill or promissory note.

The historic process has developed more slowly than Trotsky anticipated but it has developed along the same line. In half a dozen countries we can count thousands of workers and poor peasants who sympathize with our ideas. On the world arena there are already several hundred thousands.

History has taught us that the workers do not always move when impatient revolutionists call them. But they move when they are ready to move and then they move massively. The pioneers of industrial unionism raised the banner of the One Big Union in Canada almost 30 years ago. Upon the collapse of this movement which had rallied to its side the most advanced of the Canadian working class, many faint hearts thought that industrial unionism was dead. But today the majority of the basic industries are organized in industrial unions under the CIO. The workers move when they are ready, when conditions mature for it. And then they move at an incredible speed.

Our forces are still few compared with the forces needed to achieve our glorious objective. But the first important wave of struggles in France was sufficient for Time Magazine to report that "the name of Leon Trotsky began to be heard again," that Trotsky's shadow was projecting itself upon events.

HE NEVER DOUBTED

Trotsky never doubted the socialist future of mankind or the ability of the workers to achieve it. How he differed from the Social Democratic leadership and the Stalinist bureaucrats with their mass parties and their non-confidence in the working class. Trotsky said that these parties are completely hopeless because they all stand on ground that is crumbling away beneath their feet . . . they suffer by sympathetic action from all the diseases of bourgeois democracy and must perish with it.

How true this prediction rings. Capitalism, rotten to the core, remains on the scene and in Britain and France gathers strength, thanks only to the traitorous mercies of the Labor Party flunkeys and Thorez. These scoundrels have become the props and last ditch defenders of the very society which they are pledged to destroy.

As the CCF leaders move closer to power they reveal more nakedly and unashamedly that they too are the labor lieutenants of the capitalist class. Coldwell in a debate with a Conservative M.P. has reduced the objective of the CCF from socialism to a more stringent enforcement of the Corporations Act. The Stalinists ditched the socialist objective over ten years ago and continue to falsely repeat that "the issue is not capitalism versus communism but democracy versus a resurgent fascist war threat."

The alternatives confronting mankind are socialism or atomic destruction. The continuation of capitalism under the aegis of either the CCF or LPP means the destruction of society. The alternative is not the CCF or LPP versus the Revolutionary Workers Party but the RWP versus Canadian fascism which is already showing dangerous signs of rebirth. All other parties are transitory things which will be ground to bits as the social crisis develops to the real showdown.

MAN'S COMMUNIST FUTURE

Trotsky treated with contempt all those mental incompetents who seek to fasten upon the workers the crimes of their leaders. He never blamed the workers for defeats. He sought always to draw for them the lessons of their experiences, to teach and inspire them, to give them proper leadership. He understood the dynamic power of the proletariat. He learned well the lessons of the class struggle.

He taught us to believe in man and his communist future. To believe in man is to believe in a future that holds other than war and destruction. There was nothing mystic in Trotsky's unbounded confidence in the working class. The laws of history are stronger than the terrorist's arm and all the powers of the social betrayers, both Stalinist and Social Democratic. These forces can never succeed in breaking the revolutionary will of the proletariat.

Trotsky laid the foundations of a world wide revolutionary workers party. This party is the sum and substance of Trotsky, it contains the live Trotsky. It is the vehicle of his ideas and is patterned in the image of his heroic struggles. He bequeathed this party to the world's oppressed. He wanted them all to make this party their own. We Trotskyists have pledged ourselves to build this party . . . the party of the Canadian revolution. We dedicate this party and the new world which it will usher into being, as a monument and tribute to its peerless founder.

Join us in this party and take part in this glorious struggle. This is the kind of tribute that Trotsky would have desired.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE (45) Mid-Sept. 1947

Dollar Crisis Threatens Canada

By ROSS DOWSON

The world monetary crisis threatens to deal devastating blows to the Canadian economy and usher in, ahead of schedule, the ever ominous depression with its poverty and unemployment. Britain is slashing her imports at the rate of 912 million dollars a year. France has decreed a saving of 250 million in dollars in the next 6 months alone. Australia has cut her imports by 40 million.

Most of the dollar "savings" will be effected by drastic curtailment of imports from the United States, but smaller dollar countries, especially Canada, will feel the pinch too.

CANADA HIT

Canada's exports are headed for a precipitous fall. In 1946 her exports reached the value of over 2,312 millions. In dollar value they were three times the 1938 total. Canada's gross national product in 1946 was 11,129 million dollars. Over one fifth of this gross national product went to the export market.

Bermuda and the British West Indies, in line with instructions from London, have halted the issuing of import licenses to dollar areas such as Canada. Officials state that Canadian exports to these areas, which amounted to $44,284,900 in the six months ended June 30, will be seriously cut, "although it is too early yet to determine the full extent of the restrictions." The areas hardest hit will be the Maritime provinces which are big exporters to these markets.

When British financial experts announced the suspension of convertibility of sterling into dollars they reassured Canadian business men that this "temporary" suspension of the transfer of sterling between countries outside the sterling areas does not in any way affect "trade or financial transactions between Canada and the United Kingdom."

But last month Britain quietly cancelled the order for the Nova Scotia apple crop. This action has recently been followed up by the cancellation of the agreement to buy 40 per cent of the British Columbia salmon pack. The United Kingdom has also discontinued purchases of Canadian fresh frozen cod and haddock fillets which last year amounted to eight million pounds.

The British Board of Trade has revoked the open general license previously granted for importation of most types of undressed furs . . . thereby banning all Canadian skins, according to officials of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Canada's exports to the Empire countries in the first 6 months of 1947 totalled 553 millions. The bulk of these shipments went to Great Britain. These exports to Great Britain were paid for through an agreement in which Canada required 50 per cent payment in gold or U.S. dollars for all sterling area purchases here that were not paid for by Canadian imports from the sterling area. British officials estimate that payments had reached over 220 million U.S. dollars for the first six months of 1946.

This 50 per cent payment in U.S. dollars that Canada received for its exports to Great Britain is being applied to the unfavorable balance of trade that exists between Canada and the United States.

Canadian imports from the United States for the first half of 1947 reached the amazing total of almost one billion dollars. Her exports to the U.S. in the same period were only 482 millions. Temporarily this "unbalance" has been met by the British dollar payments and dipping into the wartime "kitty" of one quarter billion U.S. dollars that was accumulated by the government.

British financial experts hope to get out of their difficulty by putting pressure on the Wall Street profiteers to modify the harsh terms that they had wrung from them in return for the three and a half billion dollar loan. They want to ease the non-discrimination clause which wiped out British Empire preferences and required her to "buy American" unless she could get like goods cheaper elsewhere.

Wall Street has granted Britain permission for an emergency suspension of the "free convertibility" clause in its loan agreement. But American business has already lost about one billion dollars worth of trade through the decisions of Britain, France and Australia to cut imports. Further concessions by the monopolists can only be made by a self imposed restraint on their greedy and insatiable appetite for profits, and hopes that

(Continued on page 2)

04-15-1

Dollar Crisis Hits Canada—May Usher In Depression

(Continued from Page 1)

the entire costs of these concessions can be imposed upon the working class at home.

American imperialism and her Canadian satellite, sole victors of the II World War, are confronted with all the contradictions that arise from the decrepit and bankrupt capitalist system.

Their great industrial apparatus which was enormously expanded through the war, requires markets that can provide it profits. They have no serious competitors, but the world market is in shambles. Canada and the U.S. can sell to Europe only if the taxpayers at home foot the bill.

By loans, by gifts, by temporarily relaxing their grip on some of their spoils, Wall Street and Bay Street can alleviate the crisis confronting the vanquished nations and ruined Great Britain. They can alleviate the crisis, prolong its agony—but they cannot solve it.

The private ownership of the means of production and the expropriation of the fruits of the workers' labor by the capitalist class, are at the nub of the crisis.

The great industrial areas of Europe are in ruins. The productive forces of society have long ago outgrown the boundaries of the nation state.

The restoration of war shattered Europe, the effective utilization of the world's resources, expansion of trade and commerce on the basis of this nation's wants and that nation's super-abundance, are no longer possible within the framework of capitalism.

The abolition of private property in the means of production and a planned economy under the democratic control of the workers and poor farmers is a fundamental prerequisite if world society is to go forward.

Once it begins, the socialist revolution with the aid and example of the advanced nations will carry the backward nations into the stream of socialism. The contradictions that rend the world today will find their natural and peaceful solution within the framework of the Socialist United States of the World.

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(Part 1 of 2)

THE UNION LEADERS AND LABOR'S NEEDS

By PAUL KANE

This year's wage drive, launched by the reorganization of the Wage Coordinating Committee of the Canadian Congress of Labor on May 22, is drawing to a close. The bulk of the mass industrial unions, with the exception of the United Packinghouse Workers and one or two others, have signed new contracts.

By mid-July 112,000 of the 300,000 CCL membership had gained wage increases ranging all the way from 15 cents down to 6 and 7 cents. In the meantime the major UE shops, scattered USA plants, and the powerful UAW locals in Windsor have signed up. In the craft-weakened unions organized under the Trades and Labor Congress, the major unions received very small increases with the members of hundreds of the smaller and isolated locals scraping through on the same rates of pay as last year.

The CCL leadership has proudly and widely publicized the fact that "112,000 members have gained wage increases." But the fact remains that these increases have been woefully inadequate. The great wage gains won in last year's heroic battles on the picket lines have been more than wiped out. The Big Business inflationary assault and profit-grabbing have gouged deeply into the workers' basic standard of living.

Official government reports, always notorious for their understatement of the actual situation, nonetheless give a more accurate picture of the workers' plight. Real weekly earnings at May 1, 1947, stood at 6 per cent below May 1, 1945. These figures tell only in a cold and limited way what has happened to the workers' living standard; less food, fewer clothes, etc.

They were based on the cost of living index when it stood at 127.7; but by July 2 it had soared on up to 135.9. Real average yearly earnings in manufacture have fallen steadily in the past three years. The 1946 index stood at 132.4 compared with 140.8 in 1945, and 141 in 1944.

These figures which give us a glimpse at the real conditions of the Canadian workers, are a startling exposure of the complete inability of the trade union leadership to defend the interests of the workers against the ferocious attacks of the Bay Street monopolists.

Pat Conroy, Secretary-Treasurer of the CCL and chairman of the Wage Coordinating Committee reported to the July meeting of the committee that "so far only these who are strongly organized appear to have been successful in obtaining wage adjustments." What a confession this is for the chairman of a committee which the CCL leadership proclaimed was to unify demands, make decisions on strategy and coordinate the wage struggle!

Conroy confesses that the committee was not resurrected to coordinate a wage drive. From the very beginning every union, every local was out on its own. All the weaker unions could hope for was that they would be carried along by the dynamic power unleashed by the mass industrial unions.

But the big unions did not storm the bloated coffers of the industrialists. Instead the United Steelworkers under the craven leadership of C. H. Millard announced early in the year that they would not go after wage increases. The leadership of the UAW at General Motors agreed "to make no request for general wage increases before June, 1948." Some of the most powerful unions made the most picayune settlements. The Ford local of the UAW, almost 10,000 strong, signed an agreement for a 3 cent increase.

(Continued on Page 3)

09-15-2

The Union Leaders And Labor's Needs

(Continued from Page 1)

The trade union bureaucracy, frightened of the great forces that a genuine struggle would generate, resurrected the Coordinating Committee only as a sop to the pressure of the union militants. While they proclaimed on May 22 that the CCL was "to enter upon a general wage campaign," their basic strategy was to stand fast. Their policy was to stymie any and all attempts of militant action and dissipate the energies of the workers in futile appeals to Big Business and their government lackeys to roll back prices.

The government, stone deaf to the servile appeals of the bureaucrats, has continued to raise and rip off the price ceilings and is reported by reliable sources to be preparing to sweep away all controls in the next 5 or 6 weeks. Both the TLC and CCL leaderships continue to plead and whine for the reimposition of the ceilings. But the bankruptcy and fraudulence of these appeals has become transparently clear to the rank and file.

The bureaucracy has had to devise some method of siphoning off the discontent and the desire to do something about it that has continued to grow in union ranks. Here the trade union leadership has shown great ingenuity and skill.

The UAW leadership has been anxiously advocating the acceptance of hospital, insurance and retirement schemes, not as supplements but as substitutes for wage increases. The top functionaries in both the CCL and TLC have spearheaded a campaign for buyers' strikes. These well heeled and sleek office-holders have had the audacity to urge the workers who have already been forced to skimp on their tables, to refuse to buy bread, butter and other essentials in order to force prices down. Needless to say these strikes have been completely ineffective.

Their latest discovery has been the great benefit of cooperative ownership of stores and factories. But the only merit that cooperatives have in their eyes is as a possible substitute for an effective program to meet the inflationary wage cuts.

Wage increases must be won if the workers are to even hope to escape from being pushed into the pit of pauperism and pestilence that capitalism holds in store for them. Real earnings in 1944 stood at 141, in 1945 at 140.8, in 1946 at 132.4. 1947 . . . What? A halt must be made in this decline in living standards now.

The wage increases, incorporated into a new base rate must be protected from further inflationary cuts by including in each contract a clause that guarantees automatic increases with each rise in the cost of living.

The struggle for this program upon which the future health of the workers depends, requires an unremitting struggle against the conservative trade union leadership.

(To be continued)

Manifesto Gives Program for Spanish Workers

Paris, France, Aug. 14 — The Spanish section of the Fourth International has just published a manifesto on the present political situation in Spain. The manifesto is headed, "Long live the front of the workers organizations! Against capitulation to the blackmail of the UN! For the revolutionary establishment of the Republic! For free elections to a Constituent Assembly under the guarantee of an armed people!"

The document scores the agreement between the Socialist Party and the monarchists, and points to the connection between this deal and the designs of world capitalism in Spain.

The manifesto proposes the formation of a Workers Alliance based on the following platform:

(1) The Workers Alliance shall take the leadership of the domestic struggle against the Franco regime as well as the struggle organized from abroad. It shall demand that all existing funds be turned over to it. The struggle under the Workers Alliance shall continue until the complete collapse of the political, police and military apparatus of Franco.

(2) The formation of national, regional and local leaderships of the Workers Alliance.

(3) When the Franco regime collapses, the Workers Alliance shall proclaim the Republic and constitute itself as the provisional organism of state control based on the arming of the people in militias.

(4) The Workers Alliance shall guarantee the following most urgent needs immediately: liberation of prisoners, return of emigres, judgment and punishment of the Franco leaders, eligibility to all public posts and jobs, expropriation of the capitalists who backed Franco, formation of workers' committees to control industry, peasants' committees to distribute the land, and so on.

(5) The Workers Alliance shall convoke elections for a Constituent Assembly. All those over 18 shall have the right to vote. All those elected shall be subject to recall at any time by their electors. Complete freedom shall be granted to the various Iberian nationalities to decide their fate.

LABOR CHALLENGE (45) Mid-Sept. 1947

Trotsky Speech Featured at Two Memorial Meetings

The recorded speech delivered by Leon Trotsky on the founding of the Fourth International nine years ago, was featured at Trotsky Memorial Meetings held under the auspices of the Revolutionary Workers Party in Vancouver and Toronto.

In words that are well applied to himself today, Trotsky at that time spoke of the martyred dead of the Fourth Internationalist movement:

"Our young international already knows many victims . . . With gratitude and love we remember them all in these moments. Their spirits continue to fight in our ranks."

Trotsky died on August 21, 1940, from pick-axe blows inflicted by Stalin's hired assassin. But as Trotsky prophetically declared, terror could not halt the progress of his ideas:

"The hangmen think in their abstruseness and cynicism that it is possible to frighten us. They err! Under blows we become stronger. The bestial politics of Stalin are only politics of despair."

Since 1940, the Fourth International has continued to grow, despite terrible losses at the hands of Hitler's gestapo and Stalin's GPU, despite imprisonment by the "democratic" imperialists, and all other attempts of reactionary forces to silence its voice. Today there are sections or groups of the Fourth International in over 30 countries, fighting for the socialist emancipation of the world working class.

The observance of the anniversary of Trotsky's death had special importance for the friends and members of the RWP, for the Canadian section of the Fourth International has made important steps forward since its foundation less than a year ago. Both meetings were inspiring and enthusiastic.

The Vaucouver rally, held at Arcadian Hall on August 24, heard Bill Whitney as the main speaker, and was chaired by S. Stanton.

In Toronto, the memorial address was delivered by Ross Dowson, National Secretary of the RWP, speaking at the Labor Lyceum. In response to an appeal by Murray Dowson, editor of **Labor Challenge**, the audience donated over $44 to the work of the Toronto branch. The meeting concluded with the singing of **The Internationale.**

U.S. Trotskyists Plan Presidential Campaign for '48

Little Pleasant Lake, Mich., Aug. 24. — Plans for the biggest campaign ever undertaken by the Socialist Workers Party, a presidential compaign in 1948, were mapped out at a six-day combined SWP National Committee Plenum and Organizers Institute held here at Midwest Camp last week.

This will be the first nationwide electoral campaign launched by the Trotskyists in this country. Most of the discussion around this proposed campaign dealt with practical difficulties of getting on the ballot, the kind and amount of activity required to overcome these difficulties and the nature of the election campaign itself.

The plans call for intensive election work in most of the big industrial states, in which SWP branches are already active and have gained experience from past state and local election work.

The National Committee members and branch organizers left the conference to lay the groundwork for the campaign next year which, they were determined, will not be a token affair intended only for the record, such as minority parties often engage in, but an active, hard-hitting campaign directed at bringing the SWP's revolutionary program to tens of millions of workers and farmers.

09-15-3

Manifesto Gives Program for Spanish Workers

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LABOR CHALLENGE (45) Mid-Sept. 1947

Toronto Pledges $875 In Labor Challenge Drive

The Sustaining Fund Compaign announced in the September issue of LABOR CHALLENGE is well under way. The Toronto branch of the Revolutionary Workers Party has pledged itself to raise half of the $1,750 which we need by Nov. 15, to meet the monthly deficit of our paper for the coming period. The first dollars are now coming in: future issues of the paper will carry a full report of the progress of the campaign.

One of our columnists, Theodore Kovalesky, has summed up what LABOR CHALLENGE means to the workers. When you have read his letter, send in what you can to help. Address your contribution to Labor Challenge, 87 King St. West, Room 5, Toronto 1, Ont.

Dear Friend:

I wonder just how it was when you bought your subscription to **Labor Challenge**. Perhaps it happened in the shop, when one of your union brothers told you about a workers' paper that told the truth and had the courage to stick to its guns even when the going was tough.

Perhaps you subscribed right after the war, feeling that the workers had nothing to fight for, nothing to win, that it had been a capitalist war for power and profits, and all the fine words about a "war for democracy" were lies.

Perhaps one evening a young member of the Revolutionary Workers Party knocked on your door and showed you the paper for the first time.

Perhaps you belong to the Labor Progressive Party. You might have gotten your first **Labor Challenge** at a distribution outside the hall where you went to hear Tim Buck. It must have been refreshing and stimulating when you read it, when you saw in print the very things that you believed in the bottom fo your heart **should** have been printed in the **Tribune** but **weren't** printed there. You must have felt deep satisfaction when you read in **Labor Challenge** that the Revolutionary Workers Party always opposed the wartime no-strike pledge that bound labor's hands, when you read the the RWP opposed the capitalist war and defended every colonial nation that fought for liberty and every worker out on strike and every Negro or Jew fighting for life and dignity against fascists, Ku Kluxers, and other reactionary race-haters.

You and I are brothers, comrades. We want a better world. We have this thing in common, our desire for truth and justice, freedom and equality. If you didn't feel this way, you wouldn't have subscribed to **Labor Challenge.**

Feeling the way you do about the ideas of **Labor Challenge,** don't you want to do something to help? The 25c you paid to have the paper sent to your house for six months didn't pay for the paper at all. That's the price, but it couldn't put out the paper without other financial help.

You must have read by now about the **Labor Challenge** Sustaining Fund campaign for $1,750. That's what I want to talk to you about.

We need those few dollars or cents that you can manage to spare. And I ask you to give them. Or rather I ask you to INVEST them.

If you give to the **Labor Challenge** fund, you invest money in a new world. You strike against fascism and tyranny. A political party needs money, you know. It needs help to publish its paper.

There are no big advertisements to pour money into the paper, and without money, there wouldn't have been any **Labor Challenge** for you to read.

You can help in this fight against misery, tyranny and war. You can dig down and give as much as you can afford. You'll be giving the money to help YOU and your kids. You'll be laying a brick in the building of Socialism and buying a share of stock in the new world.

Don't put it off. There are so many things we intend to do that we just don't get around to doing. But this is important! It could be, some day, a matter of life and death, of freedom or fascism.

Fraternally, T. KOVALESKY.

09_15-4

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What Is Behind Strife In India
—(SEE PAGE THREE)

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party — Canadian Section, Fourth International

VOL. III, No. 17 (46) — TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1947 — PRICE: 5 Cents

10-01-1

B.C. LABOR CAN SMASH BILL 39 BY 24-HOUR GENERAL STRIKE

Profiteers Run Wild With Ottawa's Consent

By DAVID WILLIAMS

Already gorged to the bursting point, the food profiteers are now stealing the bread from the workers' tables. With the removal of flour subsidies by Ottawa this month, millers and bakery trusts began grabbing with both hands. Wheat flour prices zoomed 90 per cent, white bread soared three to six cents a loaf. Rye flour is expected to rise 400 to 500 per cent, and rye bread, the staff of life for thousands, has become a luxury.

With utter contempt for the needs of the Canadian people, the government has declared open season on the pocketbooks of the poor. Ceilings were removed on practically every necessity of life that still remained under control.

All canned goods, prepared cereal products, corn and corn products, peas and beans were decontrolled. So were clothing, textiles, leathers, building products. Only rent, sugar and meat remain under ceilings—and meat ceilings, Ottawa admits, will be removed when the packing strike ends.

A thunderous storm of protest rose from the labor movement as the decontrol order went through. The Canadian Congress of Labor declared that the destruction of price ceilings had been wrought "in complete disregard of continued warnings which this Congress, and the Canadian workers and the consuming public have expressed.

"By virtually inviting price increases, and allowing prices to spiral," it continued, "the government is asking for trouble. In effect workers are being invited to seek new wage increases in order to meet higher living costs."

ON THE CHIN

The Toronto Trades and Labor Council (AFL) was even more emphatic in its statements. "If labor has been at fault," it said, "it is because we have been too law-abiding and have followed too docilely the machinery set up by the government, which in all its phases works against an increase in wages. Because we have subjected ourselves to this procedure, we have repeatedly taken it on the chin."

Elphege Beaudoin, president of the Quebec Federation of Labor declared, "There is no doubt about it, wage battles are coming. We have no choice. Everything has hit the ceiling. There will be an enormous demand for wage increases. The workers in the shops

British Unions Force Arrest of Fascist Hooligans

The fascist rats are once more crawling out of the gutters in London. Demagogues and hooligans spout fascist ideology from the street corners and distribute their racist, anti-working class sheets. The Horst Wessel song and cries of "Heil Hitler" resound in London's slum districts. Riotous attacks on Jewish property have increased.

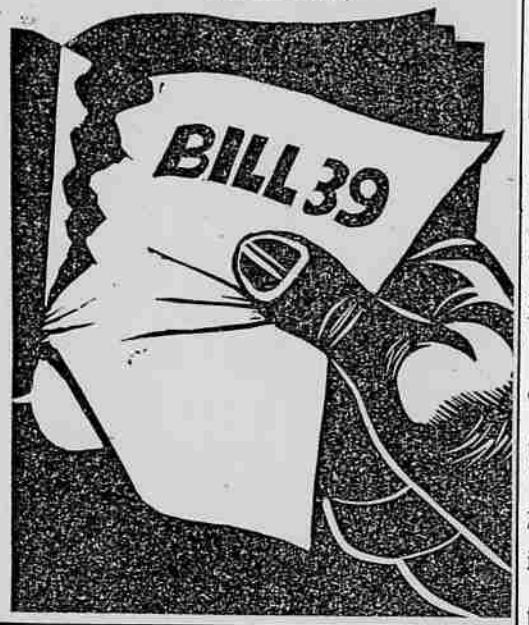
The fascists, organized under the British Ex-Servicemen's League which includes many former members of Mosley's British Union of Fascists, have been undergoing a rapid revival.

The London Trades Council, representing 650,000 trade unionists, has called upon the Labor Government to ban all fascist activities and prosecute all "those responsible for fascist provocations to violence and disorder." The Council followed the lead of the British Trade Union Congress which had previously called upon the Home Secretary to check the spread of fascism.

The British Labor Party leadership, however, has hedged and stalled from taking any militant and decisive action against the fascists. Home Secretary Ede professed inability to do anything "since being a fascist is not in itself a crime."

But under the pressure of the workers and their trade unions the government has been compelled to commence timid criminal pro-

RIP IT OUT!



Time For Actio

By THE EDITORS

British Columbia has become a testing-ground for anti-labor barrage that Parliament threatens to let l nationally in its next session. The B.C. workers now stau ly defending their unions on the picket lines and in courts, have the whole organized labor movement of province behind them in the fight. They have the powe make the provincial government retreat, and to pre the federal government from daring to enact similar l

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Labor cannot allow Bill 39 to remain in any form whatever. The law must be torn out of the statute books.

How can the workers mobilize their forces to accomplish this? What is needed is the most drastic kind of pressure. What is needed is a demonstration of labor's real power. Petitions and protest meetings are good, but not enough! They must be backed up by the full might of the trade unions in action.

The method has already been proposed by a section of the B.C. workers. A 24-hour province-wide protest strike is the kind of action that can make Hart and all the boss stooges in the government think twice. A one-day protest stoppage by the organized workers would serve notice that the mandate of the people is:

NO TAMPERING WITH LABOR'S RIGHTS!

The rank and file of the unions are ready for such action. They have shown this in their ready support of the 2,000 "illegal" strikers, and by digging into their pockets to raise funds for the court battle.

Only the top leadership of the unions is holding this growing movement in check today. By raising the demand in every local meeting, by making their voices heard above the timorous pleas of the bureaucrats, the rank and file workers can enforce their demand. This powerful mass action can wipe out Bill 39 and score a victory for all labor.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

(46) OCTOBER 1947

THE UNION LEADERS AND LABOR'S NEEDS

By PAUL KANE
(Second of Two Articles)

The struggle for new wage increases to stymie Bay Street's savage gouges at the living standards of the workers, and the defense of these increases with the sliding scale of wages, is the primary task confronting the trade unions.

But the monopolists' drive to bloat and gorge themselves at the expense of the workers and their families is only one aspect of their monstrous and evil plans. The capitalists are out to housebreak and smash the trade unions. They are conspiring and plotting the destruction of all opposition in preparation for the coming economic debacle and the assault on what remains of the glorious Russian revolution.

Even as the war drew to a close Big Business loosed the initial wave. The announcement of Japan's surrender set off a nationwide avalanche of plant shut-downs, mass layoffs, a purging of union militants and slashes in take home pay.

But Big Business misjudged the temper of the workers. Big Business felt the colossal power of organized labor in last summer's gigantic strike wave. All their efforts to smash this strength were frustrated by the solidarity of the workers.

Unable to defeat the unions by a frontal attack, the capitalists are now seeking to sow dissension in labor's ranks, to isolate and weaken the unions, and render them impotent through the passage and enactment of slave labor laws.

WITCH-HUNT

The capitalists deliberately chose this period to launch a well organized witch-hunt which has been gradually infecting and wreaking havoc in the ranks of the unions. "Look out for the reds," they cry. They hope thereby to cover and divert attention from their own crimes. The labor bureaucrats, instead of rallying the workers to battle with the bosses, are joining the hue and cry against the "reds."

The CCL leadership has attempted to whip all CCL affiliates behind its reactionary raiding of the Stalinist dominated AFL Textile Union under the cover of red baiting. The cowardly AFL leadership has cloaked a whole series of raiding drives on the CCL Steel, Electrical and Lumber Unions in the sordid mantle of "fighting the reds."

The Stalinists, who are neither red nor revolutionary, and against whom the whole drive is supposed to be directed, are putting up no resistance. In fact the Stalinist dominated Canadian Seamen's Union was the first to utterly debase itself before Bay Street's "drive out the reds" campaign when it signed affidavits that its ships' delegates are not "communists or communist agents."

Militants must fight to expose

(Continued on Page 3)

The Union Leaders and Labor's Needs

(Continued from Page 1)

the treacherous policies of the Stalinists in the unions. At the same time they must not permit themselves to be entangled with the red-baiters within the trade union bureaucracy. The witch-hunts are actually aimed at the entire labor movement and especially the most progressive tendencies and ideas within it.

Parallel with their powerful propaganda drive to sow dissension and confusion within the unions the capitalists have been preparing a legal assault on labor. They have been attempting to shove through both provincial and federal governments, a whole series of slave labor bills designed to cut the trade unions to ribbons.

Unable to smash the unions with police terror and intimidation, Bay Street plots to tie them up in endless red tape of forced arbitration, fines, etc. In the last days of this summer's session of the House, King introduced a Canadian version of the infamous Taft-Hartley Act—Bill 338.

This blueprint to outlaw strikes and smash the unions met only a restrained criticism from the top union leadership. Both the leadership of the Canadian Catholic Federation of Labor and President Bengough of the Trades and Labor Congress, AFL, expressed uncritical support of the bill.

There can be no doubt that King's bill to destroy the unions would have become law but for the protests that arose from the rank and file who made their voices heard in several local labor bodies and scattered international unions.

King was compelled to withhold his blow until the next session of the House, but his satellites in the provincial governments have continued their preparations to hamstring labor. The B.C. Hart coalition government shoved through a modified version of King's plans in Bill 39. This bill became law last March but the labor bureaucrats did nothing, hoping that labor's enemies would leave it on paper.

But labor's enemies are dead serious about Bill 39 and moved it into action against the Nanaimo laundry workers. The AFL bureaucrats weasled out of support of the Nanaimo strikers by promising action only in the event an AFL affiliate was victimized. The CCL leadership went into action only when Bill 39 struck them a direct blow. But their actions are the actions of abject cowards. All the trade union bureaucrats can suggest is for labor to start a paper barrage on Victoria.

The political strategists of Bay Street have seized on this very cowardice of the labor leadership. They bank their whole attack on the fear of decisive struggle that permeates the ranks of the top leadership of the unions. These "leaders" fear that they will become the prisoners and not the directors of any mass actions and seek only to demonstrate their "statesmanship" to the monopolistic masters of Canada.

These labor leaders are not only incapable of building a bulwark against the bosses' assault, but are a terrible obstacle in the path of every move of resistance on the part of the workers.

The signs of the birth of a new leadership are everywhere evident. They revealed themselves in the struggle against arbitration of the Ford strike—for the broadening of the Steel strike. They reveal themselves in the miners' sympathy strike at Nanaimo, the resolutions for a 24 hour general strike in Vancouver, and the rising pressure for a new wage struggle.

This new leadership in order to grow must crystallize itself around a program of action. It must put forward this program in opposition to the official policies of the bureaucracy and challenge it for the leadership of the workers.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE
(46) Oct. 1947

MANAGER'S COLUMN

As this issue of **Labor Challenge** goes to press, the campaign to raise $1,750.00 by November 15 is well under way. Branches and members-at-large of the Revolutionary Workers Party have accepted their quotas and pledged to surpass the goal if possible, in order to sustain our paper during the coming year.

The Vancouver branch has taken a quota of $300, and in the first three weeks of the campaign, mailed us $65 of this sum. Reg Bullock, who is directing the drive in the Vancouver area, reports that many subscribers of **Labor Challenge** have voluntarily come forward to contribute to the fund. Branch members are planning to visit others during the coming weeks, to ask for their aid in supporting the workers' press.

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Campaign Director Joe Rose has turned in $137.50 already collected on the $875.00 quota that was accepted by the Toronto branch. Comrades in this branch, too, are visiting friends to obtain their contributions to the fund.

Ontario members outside of Toronto have so far sent us $15 toward their goal of $75. Montreal comrades inform us that "everything is shaping up for the successful attainment of the $350.00 goal" accepted by them. Prince Rupert comrades have also accepted their quota.

The total received by the National Office now stands at $217.50, or 13 per cent of the goal—a good beginning, toward what we know will be a whirlwind finish. We urge all readers of **Labor Challenge** who support its fight for a socialist future, to send in whatever they can to help us go over the top. Your dimes, quarters and dollars will help to meet the total, and bring us all a step closer to the better world we're all fighting for.

Send your contribution right now, while it's on your mind! Address it to **Labor Challenge**, 87 King Street West, Room 5, Toronto 1, Ont.

Marxist Publications

In French and Ukrainian

FRENCH:

L'Assasinat de Leon Trotsky 25c
La Lutte Des Trotskyistes Sons La Terreur Nazie 30c
La Catastrophe Imminent et le Moyens de la Conjurer par Lenin 20c
Qu'est-ce qua Le National-Socialisme? par Trotsky 10c
Quatrieme Internationale (Juliet-Aout 1947) 35c
(Organe du Comite Executif Internationale de la IVe Internationale)

UKRAINIAN:

Assassination of Kirov (by Trotsky) 15c
I Stake My Life by Trotsky 5c
Lenin's Testament (by Trotsky) 15c
USSR and the Fourth International (by Trotsky) 10c
10 Years of the Left Opposition (by Schachtman) 15c

LABOR CHALLENGE BOOK SERVICE
87 King Street West, Toronto 1, Ontario

First Anniversary Of The RWP
—(SEE PAGE THREE)

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party — Canadian Section, Fourth International

VOL. III, No. 18 (47) — TORONTO, MID-OCTOBER, 1947 — PRICE: 5 Cents

STALIN'S "BUREAU" STIRS UP TEMPEST

24-Hr. B.C. Strike Can Rout Bill 39

BULLETIN

VANCOUVER, Oct. 14—The Vancouver Labor Council (CIO) tonight decided to consider a 24-hour sympathy strike to support striking unionists, and to ask for cooperation from AFL locals affiliated to the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council.

(Special to Labor Challenge)

VANCOUVER, Oct. 11.—The struggle against Bill 39 is going full blast on the picket lines of the CIO-CCL packing, steel and furniture workers, and the strike wave is spreading. Today the 2,800-strong Street Railway Workers Union (after complying with Bill 39's requirement of a government-conducted strike vote) rang up a five-to-one majority for strike. Sentiment for militant action is everywhere.

Several other unions which like the Street Railway Workers, first bowed down and obeyed Bill 39, are now chafing at the conciliation board's endless stall on their wage demands. Among these are the National Association of Marine Engineers, the Seafarers International Union, the AFL Bakery and Confectionery Workers and the Garage Workers. There may even be a walkout at the monopolists' headquarters! Building Service Employees at the Stock Exchange are also taking a strike vote.

The temper of the workers is at a high point. Chief Justice Wendell B. Farris today upheld the constitutionality of Bill 39. Immediately Deputy Minister of Labor Thomson announced that the government will carry out its scheme to imprison "illegal" strikers, who number about 1,600.

"We will proceed against the packinghouse workers, furniture workers, and anyone else now on an illegal strike," he threatened. The trial of 114 steelworkers already under arrest, will be resumed.

The workers are ready to support their victimized brothers. But the labor bureaucrats want to restrict the whole issue to a police court debate. They want to prevent any mass action which might threaten their control by developing a new

ands of petitions for an immediate session of the legislature to "amend" the law. Even if the session is held, it is obvious that the anti-labor law-makers won't change their bill unless the working class exerts tremendous pressure on them.

The Vancouver Branch of the Revolutionary Workers Party has wholeheartedly endorsed the de-

(Continued on Page 2)

UPWA Pickets In Montreal Defy Duplessis Cops

Oct. 14.—Almost 300 provincial and city police have launched a vicious assault on striking Montreal packinghouse workers. One hundred and thirty-four workers who struck the Canada Packers plant 5 weeks ago have been arrested and released on bail. In defiance of a Duplessis granted injunction, they broke through police ranks that have cordoned off the plant.

The meat profiteers have employed every ruse to crack the picket line. Through a coordinated press and radio campaign they offered a five cent increase to the Montreal workers with promises of an additional increase pending conciliation or arbitration findings.

Hail Trotskyist Gain in Ceylon

The following cable was sent to the Bolshevik Leninist Party of India, and a copy to the Sama Samaj.

Dear Comrades:

We are elated at the news of the electoral victory of the BLPI and the Sama Samaj Party.

It indicates to us the mass support for Trotskyism in Ceylon.

On you, the victory places a grave responsibility and it is our fervent hope that the two parties will work unitedly against the class enemy and that this unity in action will lead to the eventual fusion of all those who stand on the program of the Fourth International.

The International Secretariat, Fourth International.

Ceylon Trotskyists Win Seats in New Parliament

By K. MUKERJI

(Special to Labor Challenge)

COLOMBO, Ceylon, Sept. 22.—Elections in Ceylon under the new Soulbury Constitution are over. The Bolshevik-Leninist Party, Indian section of the 4th International, has returned five members to Parliament, among them the former general secretary of the Party, R. De Silva.

Other seats were distributed as follows: Sama Samaj Party (dissident Trotskyists) 10; Communist (Stalinist) Party 3; Ceylon Tamil Congress, 7; Indian Tamil Congress 6; Labor Party 1; United National Party 42; independents 21.

The infamous Soulbury Constitution really offers nothing to Ceylon, except perhaps the husk of independence. The Trotskyists have fought it tooth and nail, demanding Ceylon's complete independence from imperialism. They are concentrating more and more on extra-parliamentary mass-struggle for overthrowing the Soulbury Constitution, for which they have sought to solidarize with the workers and peasants of India.

The BLPI contested the elections on the whole of the Trotskyist program. It did not mince matters on the important issue of Indian immigration in Ceylon. It stood for immediate, complete civic and political rights for Indian workers in Ceylon, whereas the attitude of the Stalinists and other parties has been equivocal.

For mere vote-catching in petty-bourgeois Ceylon, nothing is more "fatal" than an internationalist position on the immigration of Indian workers. But the sound instinct of the Ceylonese workers was proved. The workers supported the BLPI at the general elections and forged thereby the solidarity with their class brothers on the mainland of India.

The Sama Samajists' winning of 10 seats was largely due to an

CEYLON → to page 2

Kremlin Reply to Imperialist War Drive Not Program of International Socialism

By JOSEPH HANSEN

The capitalist press is trying to whip up war hysteria over the "Information Bureau" set up by the Kremlin in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. They picture it as a revival of the Communist International and a turn toward the revolutionary socialist program followed by Lenin and Trotsky. They say it is a provocative move, a "declaration of political war" that demands war-like retaliation.

This high-pressure propaganda ...igned to stampede ...to support of the ...gn policy of Wall ...y Street partners ... Truman Doctrine ... Plan.

...ut Stalin has not ...ard revolution. He ... the pro-capitalist ... of a decade ago, this time against ...d of German im-

...ion Bureau" is ...rver with limited ... extension of the ... propaganda cam... ...scow began as a ... after the failure ...ch a deal for par... Marshall Plan. In ...hreat by Stalin to ...me-calling to "ter... ...merican imperial... too far.

...ut the Information ...d in the Oct. 5 ...an of the Kremlin ...holding of a con... ...end of September ... delegates of Stal... presenting Yugo... Rumania, Hungary, ...slovakia, USSR, ...

...ce decided to set ...ion Bureau to or... ...nge of experience ... and . . . coordina... ...ivity."

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STALIN

of this new body is NOT to organize socialist revolution.

The manifesto first of all reveals the not very startling fact that Anglo-American imperialism participated in World War II for imperialist reasons. It then reveals that today "America and England aim at the strengthening of imperialism and choking democracy." Another not very startling discovery.

The world today, continues the manifesto, is divided into "two camps—the camp of imperialism and anti-democratic forces whose chief aim is an establishment of a world-wide American imperialists' hegemony and the crushing of democracy; and an anti-imperialist democratic camp whose chief aim is the elimination of imperialism, the strengthening of democracy and the liquidation of the remnants of fascism."

At first glance this appears to be a more radical line than the one followed by the Stalinists during the war. Then the Stalinists labelled Britain and the U.S. as "peace loving" powers. The Stalin-

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LABOR CHALLENGE (47) Mid-Oct. 1947

election program which satisfied the broad "radical" elements of Ceylon. They did not campaign on the immigration question (the issue over which they had broken with the BLPI).

The Stalinists won three seats. This is indeed surprising in view of their insignificance in Ceylon politics. They had made most reactionary alliances during the elections with the United Nationalist Party, the party of the Ceylon bourgeoisie. They stand for a united front with the bourgeoisie for the attainment of national independence.

The Bolshevik-Leninists, however, made it clear that Parliament is only a talking shop, and that only a government of workers and peasants connotes real independence for the country, which cannot be brought about by the masses of Ceylon unaided by their class allies in India.

The United Nationalist Party is neither united nor national, nor party. The bourgeoisie in Ceylon never had the popular support of the bourgeoisie in India. It never launched any struggle against imperialism. Its cringing servility to the British distinguished it from the bourgeoisie in other colonial and semi-colonial countries. The fact that it now commands 42 seats in a House of 95, merely indicates the extent of the Tammany Hall

(Continued on Page 3)

Ceylon Trotskyists In New Parliament

(Continued from Page 1)

methods it used on a colossal scale.

The crucial issue before Ceylon is immediate independence. The UNP has already negotiated a dirty deal with the imperialist brigands, under which Ceylon is to attain the status of a Dominion, with Foreign Affairs and Defense still remaining in Britain's hands.

The British capitalists own the tea and rubber plantations in the island. British imperialism must safeguard its interests through its native henchmen. None are better fitted for the purpose than the feeble bourgeoisie of Ceylon.

But the strong showing made by the Trotskyists and the other anti-capitalists indicates that the masses of Ceylon will have some strong words to say. British imperialism and its native lackeys are reckoning without their host.

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WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE (47) Mid-October 1947

TLC, CCL Conventions In Grip of Bureaucrats

By ROSS DOWSON

The conventions of the Canadian Congress of Labor and the Trades and Labor Congress have come and gone. The hundreds of delegates representing almost 700,000 organized workers have returned to their locals. Those workers who expect* them to return with a fighting program to smash Big. Business price-gouging and slave labor legislation will be sadly disappointed.

Both conventions were in sharp contrast with last year's. The 1946 conventions met as the greatest wage drive in Canadian labor history was winding to a close. Delegates fresh from the picket-lines were scattered through the conventions. Flushed with victory, labor sensed its overwhelming power, its ability to meet all problems and resolve them. This self confidence and independence infected the most conservative elements in labor's ranks.

This year's Trades and Labor Congress Convention sidestepped, hedged and skirted around all the vital issues confronting labor like it would a booby trapped minefield. The voices of the workers seldom broke through the pious phrase mongering and clap-trap of the labor bureaucrats.

10-15-2

The anti-labor bombshell that the Ottawa strategists of the monopolists are preparing, roused only mildest criticism. Thousands of workers are on strike in Quebec and B.C. in defiance of Bill 39 and Duplessis' declaration of illegality. They are threatened with injunctions and arrests. Yet a resolution calling for the elimination of the use of injunctions to curtail unions from striking, was qualified with the insertion that the strikes be legal.

The anti-red drive which simmered from the first day of the convention broke out in the closing sessions. The constitution was amended by inserting a clause barring delegates who advocate the overthrow of the Canadian government by force. With this as a wedge, a red-baiting drive burst around a resolution demanding that "communists" be barred from holding office in the Congress and its affiliates.

Frightened by the storm of pro-

(Continued on Page 3)

Montreal Readers

For further information about Labor Challenge and the Revolutionary Workers Party, write
LABOR CHALLENGE,
BOX 1482,
MONTREAL, QUE.

TLC, CCL Conventions In Grip of Bureaucrats

(Continued from Page 1)

tests that arose from the floor, the resolutions committee attempted to reach a compromise. But the rank and file would not be content with any compromise and finally passed a resolution that "the political and religious beliefs of the individual members are the member's own business as long as such beliefs are not placed before trade union principles."

The Stalinist bloc, which contained almost 164 votes, was indistinguishable from the conservative top leadership and played a completely passive role. They offered no alternatives to the wishy-washy and bankrupt policies of the leadership. They bent over backwards as did Bruce Magnusson of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers to express their "every confidence in the Congress leadership."

CCL CONVENTION

The CCL Convention was a far cry from the calm and passivity that permeated the TLC Convention. But the struggle and tumult were not the birth pangs of a new program or progressive leadership. From the first day the Mosher-Conroy machine was out to line up the convention delegates . . . to demand unswerving loyalty to its line and to drive every hesitating element off the fence.

In the opening session they declared war on all and any opposition to their rule. They lashed out against delegates who proposed to strengthen a resolution condemning the vicious Duplessis attacks on Quebec unions. Executive member Silby Barrett opposed its strengthening with the chauvinist cry that it would be a "condemnation of the people of Quebec for having voted for Duplessis."

The next day the administration machine crushed down on the convention with its full weight. Everyone had been prepared for a knock-down battle between the CCF administration and the powerful Stalinist faction on political action. But the machine was out for much more this time.

The bureaucracy wanted to demonstrate its absolute loyalty to Canadian monopoly capitalism in the war that is being hatched out at UNO. They hope to purchase immunity from the capitalist terror campaign against labor by crawling on their bellies.

BEHIND BAY ST.

Taking encouragement from the government's anti-red campaign, the anti-Soviet scare and the propaganda drive fomented by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the bureaucrats are attempting to line the trade unions solidly behind Bay Street. The CCF intellectuals did their best to supply the ideology for their frenzied campaign.

Their attack unfolded around two main resolutions; the foreign policy and anti-communist resolutions. Demagogically utilizing working class opposition to Stalin's military domination of Eastern Europe to make an appeal for the "freedom of all peoples" from imperialist domination, the resolution goes right down the line with Wall St. After taking a side swipe at American imperialism it endorses the instrument of Wall Street's policies, the Marshall Plan, as "a symbol of the generosity of the people of the U.S. and Canada."

It hypocritically continues with a whitewash of the Bay and Wall Street war drive; "the governments of the United States and Canada are willing to assist these nations in order to restore the world to a proper balance and provide the basis for a lasting peace and economic security."

It endorses the feverish preparations for the Third World War with the statement that "In view of the present unsettled world situation . . . it is geographically logical that Canada exercises military cooperation with the U.S."

Under the hammer blows of the bureaucracy and disoriented by the criminal misdeeds of the Kremlin clique many worker delegates were whipped into line behind the administration.

The following day the administration went a step further in its hysterical plot to smash all opposition. Under the guise of defense of democracy in the trade unions, it called for the denunciation of "communist attempts to stifle the freedom of the workers." Speaker after speaker rose to denounce the "reds." They made every attempt to identify the Stalinists and the LPP with communism.

HOW TO FIGHT THEM

The Stalinists are a terrible danger to the trade union movement and irreconcilable war must be waged against them. But they can only be fought from an anti-capitalist position, not as communists but as betrayers of communism and the interests of the workers in the class struggle.

But it was upon this ground that the trade union bureaucrats were silent, for these "anti-Stalinists" are guilty of the same crimes as the Stalinists. In every crucial test they have found themselves allied with the Stalinists.

They both supported the war, introduced the speed up and piece work. They both undermine the independence of the workers from the bosses and compromise their struggles. They both strangle democracy in the trade unions, etc.

The Stalinists beat their breasts under the attack of the red-baiters and in the process gained considerable capital. The bureaucracy's absolutely non-critical support of the CCF as the political arm of labor permitted the Stalinists to appear as battlers for a genuinely democratic labor party based on the trade unions. In the early stages of the struggle they could only muster 165 odd votes but in the elections to the executive they rolled up 204 out of 758 votes.

All of the most urgent problems confronting Canadian labor were obscured and relegated to the background by the fury of the bureaucracy's witch hunt. The machine came out victorious in every encounter, but it came out victorious not at the expense of the Stalinists but at the expense of the members of the CCL.

The bureaucracy's stranglehold over the membership has been strengthened. The convention has given them a mandate to move in against any and all opponents to their rule. There is no question that they will attempt to use their increased power to intimidate and cut out union militants.

Both conventions mark a milestone in the bankruptcy of the trade union leadership.

RWP Was Founded One Year Ago As Section of 4th International

By DAVID WILLIAMS

Just over one year ago the founding conference of the Revolutionary Workers Party of Canada laid firm foundations for the building of the Canadian section of the Fourth International, world party of the socialist revolution.

This conference, held only one year after the end of the second imperialist world war, saw as its main task the fight against a third holocaust which was already threatening to drown the entire world in blood. The Second World War ended with a preview of what the third massacre will look like.

The deliberate and wholesale murder of the populations of Nagasaki and Hiroshima and the terrible destruction wrought by the first atom bombs, are a warning to the masses of the world that the madmen of capitalism will stop at nothing in their drive for markets and profits.

The foundation issue of **Labor Challenge** pointed out that "the new party makes its entry on the political arena in a period of great struggles. Capitalism on a world scale is writhing in its death agony. Having drenched the world in blood in two imperialist wars, it is now rushing headlong to a third."

Events in the past year have completely verified our prognosis of the coming struggle. What only yesterday were tendencies, have now become established facts. Immediately after the war, we alone, of all working class parties, warned of the inevitable tension and conflict between the Soviet Union and Wall Street imperialism. We warned the workers against support of the United Nations Organization. We characterized it as a warmed-over version of the League of Nations, termed by Lenin as "a thieves' kitchen."

The CCF supported—and still supports—the United Nations "as the only hope for peace." Thus it is preparing to drag the Canadian workers into the next war, lined up on the side of the capitalist powers.

Nor is the Stalinist LPP any better. It clamors for "reform" of the UN, for a return to the Yalta honeymoon of Stalin and the Allies. It deceives and disorients the workers, lulling them with the lie that they can rely on "progressive" sections of the capitalist class. It tries to steer the workers away from the path of independent struggle.

The problems that Canadian workers face are the problems that all workers face; they are the products of a decaying capitalism —depression, fascism, and war. The only answer to these problems is irreconcilable struggle against capitalism on a world scale.

Capitalism is a world system based on a world-wide division of labor. Likewise, socialism can be built only on a world scale. Only a genuine international party based on the will of the masses to struggle, can lead the workers to a new

LEON TROTSKY

and better world of socialism.

The central idea of our party is working class internationalism. The Fourth International has sections in over 30 countries. We are not a loose federation of separate national parties, but sections of an international party with an international program. Our program and policy are laid down at international conventions which elect an international leadership. We are internationalists in deeds as well as in words. In Holland, our party fights for the freedom of Indonesia from Dutch imperialism. In Britain, for the freedom of India, Ceylon, Burma, South Africa. In France, for the freedom of Indo-China and other French colonies. Everywhere, against capitalist oppression and for the socialist victory of the working class.

Compare our international to the bankrupt Second International, and to Stalin's new "International Bureau" in Europe!

For several months now the CCF press has been paying lip service to the idea of recreating the Second International, which died when its various sections supported their "own" capitalist governments in the first World War. The CCF's National Membership Bulletin "Across Canada," in its September issue, correctly stated that **"this meant that the socialists in Britain and France, for example, were fighting their German and Austrian comrades on the battlefield. No international could continue to exist under such circumstances."**

How true! But what was the CCF's record in the Second World War? On the first day of the war, the CCF parliamentary caucus voted support for the capitalist war in spite of its previous position of "opposition to capitalist wars." Today the CCF is plugging for the revival of the Second International, on a program and organizational structure no different from the original.

NO COMMMITMENTS

In fact the CCF representative to the "new" Second International has already recommended, in a preliminary conference, that "the statutes of the new organization should clearly state that the association comprises socialist parties and not government or parliamentary parties. In this way it should be possible to distinguish between cooperation on the parliamentary level and that on the party level. **This would make possible the exchange of views on important issues . . . without any commitments on governments."**

In other words, what the CCF was proposing was a talk-shop which would take no responsibility for the actions and policies of "socialist" parties in power! This is the meaning of the fantastic distinction between cooperation on the "party level" and on the "government level."

And what would be the program of this phony "international"? Would it be a relentless struggle for the overthrow of decayed and rotting capitalism? Already we have the answer. Its program would be the propping up of tottering capitalism. Examples are the Labor Party in Britain and the Blum "socialists" in France.

As for the European "Information Bureau" set up by Stalin, other articles in this issue of **Labor Challenge** adequately describe its fraud and futility.

The Fourth International alone is a truly international working class party. The Revolutionary Workers Party, its Canadian section, invites all serious workers to join its ranks. Shoulder to shoulder, we will fight for the cause of the working class and its socialist future.

Long live the Revolutionary Workers Party!

Long live the Fourth International!

10-15-3

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE

(47) Mid-Oct. 1947

"Protest Our Exile!" Greek Prisoners Plead

On the desert island of Youra, Greek reaction has concentrated about 5,000 militant workers, victims of the recent wholesale arrests. A comrade, belonging to the Internationalist Communist Party, Greek Section of the Fourth International, imprisoned in the camp, gives the following description of conditions there, published in Workers' Struggle, central organ of the party, Sept. 9.

Up to the present no word has yet reached the workers' press about the terrible conditions prevailing in the Youra camp, this new Dachau of Greek reaction. How can one give an adequate picture of this place of martyrdom and death for so many thousands of worker militants? Youra is a little desert island, without a trace of foliage, beaten summer as well as winter by the winds.

Up to recently the only inhabitants of the island were two or three goat shepherds, and thousands of rattlesnakes of every species, which have from the first day been an additional plague, added to all the others that the exiles had to undergo.

There is no port. During the winter the small sailboats are unable to reach the coasts. In this desert exile, soldiers constructed last July, four concentration camps surrounded by barbed wire, into which some 5,000 political exiles were later received.

Each camp is composed of a certain number of tents, encircled with three barbed wire barriers and guarded by gendarmes. The first exiles arrived at Youra on July 1, 1947. The camp guards and gendarmes welcomed them with beatings, clubbings and similar brutalities.

GESTAPO-TRAINED

The daily regime in the camp is not much better. For the slightest infraction of the military discipline prevailing there, those "guilty" are beaten and sent to a "disciplinary prison." The camp is directed by Papadimitropoulos and Glastras, both notorious for their administration of the extermination camp Pavlos Melas at Salonika during the occupation, under the direct orders of the German Gestapo.

The guards and gendarmes do not confine themselves merely to abusing and beating the newly arrived. They also systematically rob them, seizing every object of even the slightest value, such as clothes, watches, books, shaving sets, etc., and later resell these objects at the camp canteen, most often at black market prices. The food is abominable. All staples which become unfit for sale in the regular markets are sent to the camps. Every type of fat is completely lacking.

But perhaps the greatest torture undergone by the exiles is that of having to remain for hours under the boiling sun and amidst the sand, which the winds continually stir up. Another torture is that of the lack of water. Near the sea the exiles dug up two or three wells filled with salty and muddy water. That is all they can drink. There is not a single doctor for these 5,000 inmates of Youra! The guards and gendarmes continually goad them with talk like the following: "This is not Athens or Salonika. This is Youra and we have brought you here to rot."

There is only one hospital attendant, himself an exile, who is harassed no end by the lack of any help whatsoever and of all sorts of medicants. The tubercular cases and those suffering from stomach ailments are rapidly wasting away and soon several among them will no longer be able to stand this horrible life.

We already have the first victim to report. He is the teacher, P. Koukeris, who, while sick, was terribly beaten by a gendarme until he died, abandoned, without medicaments and without medical aid, in his own tent.

FORCED LABOR

Youra is also a forced labor camp. The exiles work under the supervision of guards to expand the camp and to prepare their prison for the winter.

"We are hungry, we are thirsty, we are dying!" That is the cry of more than 5,000 militant workers thrown into the Youra hell, addressed to the workers of all countries.

Isolated on this deserted rock, famished, parched from thirst, with open wounds inflicted on their flesh by police brutality, living in filth, broken by hard labor, five thousand militant workers are doomed to a slow death!

Greek reaction is seeking to transform Youra into a vast cemetery. Our brother workers in the cities must work to stop our extermination: Demand that the inmates of Youra be released from this island of martyrdom! Demand the suppression of all these hellish concentration camps! Freedom for the exiles to return to their native villages and towns!

A Trotskyist Exile.
Youra, Sept., 1947

10-15-4

Branches Step Up Drive For Labor Challenge Fund

With one month to go in the drive for $1750 to sustain **Labor Challenge**, the Vancouver branch is well out in the lead. Vancouver accepted a pledge of $300, to be fulfilled by Nov. 15. We have already received $185 of this amount from the branch campaign director, **Reg Bullock**, who is doing a splendid job.

"The drains upon our time have not yet enabled us to canvass some of our readers, but we are trying to knit this in," Comrade Reg writes, explaining how busy the comrades have been in combatting Bill 39. In spite of this, they have managed to forward nearly two-thirds of their quota.

The Toronto branch, with a pledge of $875, has turned in $308.50 thus far. **Joe Rose**, branch campaign director, reports that the drive is gaining momentum and will go over the top in Toronto in good time.

Other Ontario comrades have sent in $50.

From **Harry Noakes** of Magna Bay, B.C., came $4 with an encouraging note, "Yours for socialism."

Every dollar of the $537.50 so far collected is a real gain for socialism. We have now achieved over 30 per cent of the goal which we must reach in order to keep **Labor Challenge** coming out regularly, twice a month, and carrying on the fight for a socialist world.

We ask everyone who wants peace and security for themselves and their children, to help us make socialism possible. You can do your bit by sending a donation, no matter how small, to **Labor Challenge** today! Address your contribution to **Labor Challenge**, 87 King St. W., Room 5, Toronto 1, Ont.

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RWP In Action

Vancouver Leaflets Urge 24-Hr. Strike

A 24-hour general strike in B.C. to protest against Bill 39 was urged in 3,200 leaflets distributed by the Vancouver branch of the Revolutionary Workers Party.

"The leaflet has been put out in sawmills from False Creek in Vancouver right down the Fraser River to the big Fraser Mills in New Westminster," Comrade Ellaline writes. "And our New Westminster comrades have covered the B.C. Electric stations in that town also.

"Shipyards, picket lines at steel works, etc., have been done and in the next few days we will finish the CPR shops, canneries and some small mills on the North Shore. In addition I have mailed out leaflets to comrades in other provincial points and all sympathizers in logging towns, hard rock mines, and so on."

Comrade Reg Bullock adds that he and Comrade Ruth "made a 4 a.m. distribution of leaflets to milk and bakery drivers on Saturday morning, and finished this with a tour of the picket lines. We received a very fine response from AFL drivers. The leaflet was particularly timely."

It called upon "workers in all unions" to "demand that your leaders call a joint conference of AFL, CCL and all legitimate independent unions" to prepare the strike.

Two lively Saturday night street corner meetings to discuss soaring prices, the war drive, and the program of the RWP, were held by the Toronto branch recently. They will hold further meetings as long as the weather permits.

Comrades **George Stanton** and **Ross Dowson** were the main speakers, with other comrades taking the platform for the first time. At College and Brunswick St. over 100 workers gathered to hear the talks. At Queen and Spadina, the crowd was nearly as large. A total of 125 copies of **Labor Challenge** and many pamphlets were eagerly bought by the audience. Several workers signed interest cards.

The branch held its first social affair of the fall season on Sept. 25, when over 40 friends and members of the party enjoyed two excellent movies—"The City," a documentary film on housing, and "Song of the People," a British musical. Discussion and dancing followed.

* * *

New subs and renewals for **Labor Challenge** have come in steadily since our last report, thanks to comrades from all these points:

TORONTO: 8 six-month subs, 3 one-year; 2 six-month renewals and 6 one-year renewals. **ONTARIO:** 1 one-year sub, 1 one-year renewal.

VANCOUVER: 3 six-month subs, 3 one-year. **PRINCE RUPERT:** 4 six-month renewals, 1 one-year renewal. **B.C.:** 3 one-year subs, 1 one-year renewal.

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47

If the number on your wrapper is the same or less than that shown above, your subscription has expired. Please renew at once.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

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11-01-1a

Road of October Is Still the Way For All Workers

By THE EDITORS

Thirty years ago, on November 7, 1917, the Russian workers took power, abolished capitalism and set up the first workers' state. Three decades of struggle since then, three decades of depression, fascism and war, have proven beyond all doubt that the road taken by the Russian workers remains the only road for the workers of Europe and the entire world.

Today, the workers face the same problems as their Russian brothers did in 1917. Only now those problems are magnified many times and made more urgent by the greater intensity and scope of the world crisis. Today the workers are faced with the question: either socialism or atomic annihilation.

World-Wide

The revolutionary upheavals that occurred in Europe following the first world war died down in a few years when capitalism was able to achieve a temporary stabilization. But capitalism, after World War II, is incapable of solving any of the problems facing the masses, even temporarily. The revolutionary upheaval, far from subsiding, continues to rise. The revolutionary situation is world wide.

It finds its clearest expression in Italy, one of the weakest links in the capitalist chain, as Russia was in 1917. The mood of the Italian workers is indicated by the fact that the Italian Communist (Stalinist) Party is the largest outside the Soviet Union. To the workers, the Stalinist party still represents the Russian Revolution.

New Upsurges

As far back as 1943, in the midst of the imperialist war, the Italian workers began to move. In that year, one of the most important signs of a revolutionary situation, a workers' and soldiers' council was set up in Milan. The partisan movement assumed mass proportions. By April, 1945, a genuine insurrection took place, ending in the seizure of factories in Northern Italy by workers' committees. Political functions were exercised by Committees of National Liberation, and revolutionary tribunals of justice were set up. Shortly afterwards, to the horror of the imperialists of all stripes, Mussolini was executed by the partisans. Only the capitulation of the Stalinist leaders to the allied imperialists saved capitalism in Italy.

Two years of increasing hunger and privation have brought new upsurges in Italy. Last September 1, 1,000 partisans marched into Casale Monferrati in northwest Italy. Together with 1,200 local partisans they took over the city government and called a general strike that lasted several days. One million northern farm workers and 800,000 steel workers went on strike in protest against the skyrocketing cost of living; more than a million state employees are pressing for a rising scale of wages.

On September 21, in a significant revolutionary act, 5,000 farm workers, carrying red flags, seized private and state lands near Rome and announced their intention of keeping and tilling the land.

The experience of the Italian workers has been duplicated in almost every country of Europe. In eastern Europe, the workers greet-

(Continued on Page 3)

ROAD → to page 2

VANCOUVER STREET CAR WORKERS SOLID IN SECOND WEEK OF STRIKE

STOP THAT THIEF!

Steel, Packing, Furniture Locals Return, Battle Against Bill 39 is in Danger

VANCOUVER, Oct. 26—The transit strike, tying up all street car and bus service in Vancouver, Victoria and New Westminster, today enters its second week, with ranks solid and morale high. The 2,800 members of the AFL Street Railwaymen's Union are demanding a 20 cent hourly increase, and the 40-hour week. They scornfully rejected the BC Electric company's "suggestion" that an arbitration board be set up "to end the walkout."

"We've been through seven months of that already," one union spokesman said. "The men won't accept another board of any kind."

The Street Railwaymen's Union had obeyed every last letter of Bill 39. Now its members know from experience exactly how the anti-labor law hamstrings the workers, stalls negotiations, and aids the profiteering corporations.

"We are the only major union in British Columbia that has complied with every part of Bill 39," a statement issued by the Street Railwaymen's Union pointed out. "We have been negotiating for seven and one-half months. These prolonged negotiations have cost the union thousands of dollars in legal fees alone, and left us exactly where we were when negotiations were originally commenced on March 1, 1947."

OTHERS GO BACK

But at the very moment these fresh and militant reinforcements were marching to the aid of their brothers on the picket lines, the bureaucratic leaders of the steel, packinghouse and furniture unions were calling off the fight!

While the tram workers voted to walk out, the Vancouver and Burnaby steel workers returned to their jobs, with a 10-cent increase —but with their members still on trial under Bill 39. The packing house workers went back, swallowing the piece-meal settlements made by their national officers; they too face probable court action under Bill 39.

Montreal Pickets Defy Injunctions, Police Terror

By DAN PARKER
(Special to Labor Challenge)

MONTREAL, Oct. 26 — Using every device of the Quebec anti-labor laws, backed by injunction-granting courts and the police of the reactionary Duplessis government, the bosses are fighting to keep this province a paradise for exploiters. But they are meeting strong opposition from workers

Road of October is Still Way For Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

ed the Red Army by seizing factories and setting up workers' committees, only to see them crushed by the Stalinists. In France, the "liberation" of Paris was accompanied by the seizure of factories and the taking over of many of the functions of government by the Committee of National Liberation. Two years later the country is shaken by periodic crises and strikes as the workers struggle to defend their meagre standard of living. Class lines are hardening in preparation for the coming struggle.

COLONIES ON MARCH

The workers of the colonial countries are likewise on the march in Indonesia, Indo-China and India. In Japan, another of the weakest links in the capitalist chain, workers, both farm and industrial, poured into the unions after the end of the war. Last February, a great strike wave culminated in the threat of a general strike that was averted only by MacArthur's threat to use military force. An average of one million workers a month are involved in labor struggles.

The struggle of the Japanese workers has been marked by militant methods that challenge the whole capitalist system. One of these is "production control." The workers lock the management out of the factory, take over production, buy raw materials and sell the manufactured products without allowing company officials any voice in the enterprise. After settlement of the dispute, the plant is returned to the management. But the Japanese workers are learning by experience that factories can run quite well without capitalists.

The revolutionary crisis is reflected in the wealthiest capitalist countries, even those which were "victorious" and relatively unscathed by the war. In Britain, the workers seized the first opportunity to throw the arch-reactionary Churchill out of power and elected a Labor government with a sweeping majority. The militancy of the British workers is indicated by the mounting discontent with the treacherous policies of the Labor government, expressed in the strikes of dock workers and the Grimethorpe miners.

In Canada and the United States, the end of the war saw the greatest strike waves in the history of the two countries. The workers' standard of living continues to fall as prices rise and depression looms.

SAME PATH

In Europe today, as in Russia in 1917, all the elements of a revolutionary situation are present, and the workers are instinctively following the same path.

In February, 1917, following a series of strikes and demonstrations, the Russian monarchy was overthrown. But the bourgeois republican governments that followed were no more able to cope with the situation than are the governments of Italy and France today. The crisis mounted in intensity.

Workers' committees began to appear in the factories, and in the countryside the peasants were taking the land just as the Italian peasants are doing near Rome. By the autumn of 1917, almost the entire country was the scene of peasant revolts.

The characteristic organs of workers' rule, the soviets of workers' and soldiers' deputies, exercised power along with the impotent bourgeois regime. On November 7, the Bolshevik party under Lenin and Trotsky led the workers to power.

Why have the workers today failed to take power as they did in 1917? The conditions for successful revolution are present in 1947. The bourgeoisie are bankrupt, demoralized and unable to satisfy the most elementary needs of the masses. The workers are ready and willing to take a revolutionary way out of their intolerable situation.

A third and decisive condition for successful revolution that was present in Russia in 1917 is lacking today — the revolutionary mass party. The Communist Parties into which the workers of Europe are pouring, in the belief that they are the heirs of the Russian revolution, are no longer the parties of Lenin and Trotsky. The revolutionary party that conquered power in 1917 has become the counter-revolutionary party of Stalin.

ONLY BEGINNING

From the first, Lenin and Trotsky saw the Russian revolution only as the beginning of the world revolution and the new Soviet state as an outpost of the world working class. But following the death of Lenin, the party began to degenerate.

Owing to the backwardness of Russia and the failure of the Revolution to spread to the more advanced countries of the west, a privileged group, with Stalin as their mouthpiece, was able to take control of the party apparatus.

Interested only in maintaining its own power, the new bureaucracy substituted the doctrine of "socialism in a single country" for the internationalism of Lenin and Trotsky. Gradually, many of the gains of the Russian revolution were liquidated, Trotsky was exiled and ultimately assassinated, and the opposition was physically destroyed.

In the international sphere this policy meant the conversion of the Communist International into a Soviet border guard, at the disposal of any "friendly" capitalist power. It meant that the sections of the Communist International became instruments for the suppression of revolution which the Kremlin fears as much as any imperialist power. The Stalinist parties are the greatest brake on the revolutionary aspirations of the workers today.

In nearly every country of Europe the Stalinists headed the first upsurge that followed the war only to liquidate it and deliver the workers into the hands of the allied imperialists.

In 1917, the party of Lenin carried on an intransigent struggle against the capitalist government. Today the Stalinist ministers have joined the Social Democratic ministers and hasten to take posts in bourgeois cabinets. Now and then they attempt to raise the specter of revolution in order to force the imperialists to grant them a few more government jobs or a few minor concessions. Stalin organized the Communist Information Bureau in Belgrade in an effort to blackmail the United States into a non-aggression pact. In spite of a good deal of radical sounding anti-imperialist phraseology, the program of the "Cominform" has nothing in common with a genuine revolutionary program.

CYNICAL ROLE

This cynical manipulation of the masses by the Stalinist bureaucrats is most clearly seen in Italy. Under pressure of the workers, Stalinist leader Togliatti was forced to admit that "there is a will for revolution in large strata of the Italian people," and to threaten the government with 30,000 armed partisans.

But during the great demonstrations of September 20, Stalinist patrols told the people, "Do not cause any trouble. Show your political maturity and do not indulge in any revolutionary or irresponsible acts."

While the Stalinists betray the workers, the reaction grows bolder. According to the spokesman of international reaction, the Pope, "the time of test is here . . . even a few minutes can decide the victory. It is now the time for action. Are you ready?" Similarly, in France, Stalinist treachery is paving the way for the reactionary Bonapartist regime of de Gaulle.

But the betrayals of the Stalinists do not mean that the Russian revolution is dead. Just as the power and revolutionary will of the Russian workers live on in the workers of Europe today, so the principles of 1917 live on in the Fourth International.

TROTSKYISM GROWS

In Europe and in Asia the workers are finding their way in increasing numbers into its ranks. In countries as far apart as Ceylon and Bolivia, Trotskyist deputies have been elected to parliament. In France, the socialist youth are coming to the Trotskyist program. Even in Germany, despite repressions, a Trotskyist conference has been held and the foundations laid for the revolutionary party.

In the Fourth International, the revolutionary Marxist program that triumphed in 1917 has been preserved and enriched by the experience of thirty years. The Fourth International, the true heir of the Russian revolution, can and will lead the workers to final victory in Europe and throughout the world.

11-01-16

LABOR CHALLENGE (48) November 1947

11-01-2

Manifesto of the 4th International

Belgrade Bureau Exposed as Fraud

The International Secretariat of the Fourth International has just issued a manifesto on the organization of the so-called "Information Bureau" at Belgrade.

Addressed to the toilers of all countries, this stirring declaration denounces the trickery and deception behind the Belgrade statement:

In May, 1943, in the midst of the imperialist war, the Praesidium of the Third International, without preliminary consultation with the rank and file of the Communist Parties decided to "liquidate the affairs . . . of the Communist International."

At that time, the Stalinist leaders . . . loudly justified the dissolution of the Comintern. They declared that "the profound differences in historical development of each country" . . . created "problems so varied" that their "solution" by way of a central international would run into insurmountable obstacles . . .

In reality all these miserable arguments were only a wretched excuse to hide from the workers of the world the fact that Stalin, who long since transformed the 3rd International from an instrument of struggle for the proletarian revolution . . . had dissolved the International even formally. The Kremlin clique buried the rotten corpse of the International to reassure its imperialist allies once again and reinforce its political "union sacre" with them . . .

Today, however, representatives of 9 European Communist Parties assembled in Poland have decided to organize an Information Bureau "entrusted with the exchange of the experiences of these parties and the coordination of their activities."

Workers! You who have just read the Manifesto that the Bureau has issued . . . Remember who these persons are who today have discovered the imperialist character of American and British war aims in the last world holocaust and the fact that the globe is divided into the two opposing camps, the USSR and world imperialism. They are the very same persons who during the entire war advocated "Union sacre" with their imperialist allies.

It was they who acclaimed Churchill, de Gaulle and Roosevelt as "great democratic leaders." They obstinately denied the imperialist character of the war. They fought with frenzy the proletarian and international tendency of the working class, represented by the Fourth International which called upon the workers of all capitalist countries, whether allied with the USSR or not, to revolutionary struggle against imperialism and war . . .

If today they recollect that "the absence of liason between the Communist Parties is conducive to a situation prejudicial to the working class," it is not because they have decided to break with the policies of nationalism and class collaboration. It is solely because, in the diplomatic counter-offensive that Moscow is obliged to wage against the rising pressure of American imperialism, the menace of a reconstructed international constitutes an essential element of Stalin's blackmail . . .

The maneuveristic and opportunistic character of the Bureau is starkly revealed in its programmatic declaration. Far from advocating a return to the class struggle . . . it calls upon the workers

(Continued on Page 3)

Fourth International Hits Belgrade Bureau as Fraud

(Continued from Page 1)

to rally around the "anti-imperialist and democratic" platform and points out as the principal task of the Communist Parties, the defense of "the cause of national honor and national independence."

It is impossible not to remind these fervent champions of "national sovereignty and independence" that the Soviet bureaucracy and the Communist Parties should set the example, declaring themselves ready to withdraw Soviet occupation forces from both Europe and Asia. They should set the example by respecting the sovereignty and national independence of all the countries that the USSR occupies and oppresses.

DECEIVE MASSES

It is impossible also not to remind them that to represent the USSR and its satellites as a "democratic" bloc, waging war against the anti-democratic intrigues of the imperialists in Greece and elsewhere, is to grossly deceive the masses as to the true character of the regime in the USSR and the countries that the Kremlin dominates . . .

Finally it is impossible not to remind those who now want to lead a struggle against the belatedly discovered imperialist policy of their "democratic" allies of yesterday, that the only way to conduct this fight is to attack the very root of the trouble—the capitalist regime itself which breeds imperialism, fascism and war.

This struggle against capitalism cannot be waged on a platform of "national honor" and "national independence" with a continuation of the policy of "union sacre" and class collaboration. It can only be fought under the banner of the class struggle, for the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of socialism . . .

The Stalinist leaders will inevitably lead you to new deceptions, new betrayals, new defeats. Their aim continues to remain, not the struggle of the masses for power and the revolution, but solely to use the Communist Parties as instruments of pressure and blackmail in the conflicts, deals, and new compromises made by the Soviet bureaucracy with imperialism and the national bourgeoisie.

If the Stalinist leaders were seriously considering a "left turn" and truly desired to engage in the anti-imperialist struggle, they would cease clamoring for admission into the bourgeois governments. They would call for all power to the parties of the working class, the Communists and the Socialists, supported and controlled by the masses, to apply a genuine workers' program . . .

They would oppose the imperialist plan to coordinate and subject European economy to the interests of Wall Street with the perspective of the Socialist United States of Europe and planning in the true interests of the masses.

By demanding that the Stalinist leaders carry out such a policy you will prove to yourselves the completely maneuveristic and false character of their co-called "turn."

Workers and exploited of all lands! Your only safeguard, your only hope lies in direct class action . . . Once you understand the great power that is in your hands; once you are determined to overcome the obstacle of the bureaucratic reformist and Stalinist leadership; once you take the road of class struggle, then everything is possible.

The true masters of the world are neither Yankee imperialism nor the Soviet bureaucracy. Workers and exploited of the world! The real power is you. The decision, the fate of the world, is in your hands.

The Fourth International, the only world revolutionary party that continues the fight of Marx, Lenin and Trotsky, calls upon you to join it in the struggle for the proletarian revolution, the only way out for the proletariat and the whole of agonized humanity.

The Stalinists will never revive the IIIrd International of the revolutionary days—the days of Lenin and Trotsky. But its principles and its spirit live on today in the Fourth International which adopts its great traditions and its aim . . . the World Socialist Revolution.

—Translated from the French by E. Aldis.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE (48) Nov. 1947

Pacific Tribune Smears RWP For 24-Hour Strike Call in B.C.

By BARRY BRENT

Thousands of B.C. workers, lashed on by the soaring cost of living, are engaged in a heroic and prolonged battle against Bill 39. The most militant among them raised the demand for a conference of all trade unions in B.C., to call a province-wide 24-hour general strike that would force the repeal of the anti-labor law and the dropping of charges against strikers arrested under it.

The B.C. section of the Revolutionary Workers Party supports this demand. It has printed and widely distributed a leaflet voicing this proposal. "A 24-hour general strike," it explains, "will show the bosses that organized labor means business."

Frightened by the enthusiasm with which the leaflet was received, a Stalinist-led strike committee hastily issued a statement urging the workers not to "get drawn into side issues." It attributed the 24-hour strike call to "groups that have private axes to grind." The statement itself is evidence that there is considerable disagreement between the workers and the Stalinist leaders, as to just what kind of an issue the general strike is, and just whose axe it is to grind.

It is evident that the RWP leaflet has made rank-and-file Stalinists ask their leaders why the LPP isn't supporting this correct demand for a general strike. It is increasing the unrest and dissension in the LPP. Many rank-and-file members, under the pressure of the workers in their shops, have defied official party policy. When the proposal was introduced by Lloyd Whalen at a meeting of IWA Local 1-217, it was passed by the local and voted for even by Stalinist workers.

The corrupt and slimy LPP bureaucrats were goaded to fury. In the time-worn Stalinist tradition, with one hand pointing in malicious accusation and the other slinging a bucketful of mud, they hurried to the attack.

They slapped an anti-Trotskyist editorial into the **Pacific Tribune**, entitling it "Coalition's Fifth Column." The editorial "informs" its readers that "these Trotskyite 'leftist' disrupters ignore reality" in calling for the general strike. This claptrap is obviously repudiated by the wide support the strike idea has received from the workers, who are not cloud-sitting dreamers, but militant fighters.

Apparently the "realistic" policy, according to Stalinist reasoning, is to ask the workers to get down on their knees and beg for mercy from the vicious class enemy who is hell-bent to destroy them.

That the RWP has "sabotaged labor lobbies," as charged in the editorial, is a lie. The editorial also falsely claims that the RWP has "lauded Bill 39 as not being a 'backward step' since it would 'make the workers fight' and so forth." This lie furnishes us with an excellent example of the Stalinist technique of falsification. The RWP has always fought Bill 39 and all anti-labor laws. **The statement that Bill 39 is "not a backward step" was made not by the RWP but by a Jack Greenall, recently expelled by the B.C. LPP.**

The Stalinist editor then brands the demand for a 24-hour general strike as "yellow." It is not difficult to determine just whom the epithet should refer to, when the stand of the militant workers and RWP is contrasted with the Stalinist position.

An official LPP statement urges "all public-spirited citizens and organizations" to "demand that the government amend Bill 39 and remove the obnoxious features."

Provincial LPP leader Nigel Morgan begs the government not to drop but merely to "freeze all charges against trade unionists under Bill 39."

"Amend" the bill, not repeal it! "Demand"—but only with a flood of telegrams and delegations such as those that futilely converged on Victoria before the Bill was passed! That, not a mighty protest strike, is the Stalinist program, for the Stalinists fear they would not be able to keep a bureaucratic check-rein on a powerful strike movement.

11-01-3

LABOR CHALLENGE (48) November 1947

Govt. Spreads Terror Against Bolivian Workers

By J. GOMEZ

The shadow of American imperialism is growing darker over Latin America. The native capitalists and big land owners, taking their tip from Washington, are trying to put into effect their own versions of the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law.

In Bolivia, for instance, the Hertzog regime has launched a ferocious anti-labor drive. It is attempting in particular to smash the Miners' Federation, which is the backbone of the trade union movement in Bolivia.

11-01-4

The government has confiscated the property of the miners' union. Arrests and deportations occur daily. One graphic incident alone shows how far the Hertzog dictatorship is carrying this anti-labor drive: **In Llallagua 400 miners were exiled from the province of Bustillo for two years. They were charged with the "crime" of being "agitators."**

The miners some time ago elected a number of their own representatives to the House of Representatives and the Senate. Fearing the growing political strength of the miners, the government is now trying to take away the parliamentary immunity of these representatives and subject them to trial on framed-up charges of "subversive plots," etc.

This anti-labor drive is not confined to the miners, but is aimed at the whole working class. It is also directed against the Indian peasant masses. For the "crime" of organizing in defense of their most elementary needs, leaders of the Indians are put in concentration camps as "agitators."

One of the special targets in this terroristic drive is the Partido Obrero Revolucionario (Revolutionary Workers Party), Bolivian section of the Fourth International. Its paper, Lucha Obrera, (Workers' Struggle) was suppressed. Its members have been arrested and persecuted.

This reign of terror is the answer of the native plutocracy to the needs and the hunger of the laboring and popular masses. They know only one reply—persecution of the leaders in the fight for the needs of the masses. To the native capitalists and their imperialist masters, anyone who dares to fight for the daily needs of the masses is an "agitator."

The Latin American masses have two major enemies in their struggle—the native plutocracy and their Wall Street masters.

Anti-labor drives such as this one in Bolivia are general in Latin America today. They differ only in extent and degree. A similar drive is now gaining momentum in Chile.

MESSAGE TO LABOR CHALLENGE READERS

11-01-5

By PAUL KANE

When we knocked on your doors last spring for a subscription to bor Challenge some of you quizzed us; "What, only 25 cents for a month sub! Are you sure, isn't there anything else attached to it? ., but here, you write my name. I'm not signing my name to anyng."

Ve are all so used to the pro-tion rackets and the come-on emes cooked up by the adver-ing agencies that handle everyng from Tuller's Brushes to the est comic book that we just n't trust anyone anymore.

Vell! None of you bought a brush dust behind pictures without re-ving them from the wall, or sent extra money to cover the cost of ndling any box tops. No, the cent sub was no come-on. You eived Labor Challenge twice a nth and we know that you found it it was everything we said it uld be.

Vo, the 25 cent sub wasn't suck-bait, but we still haven't an-ered the question "How can you l a sub for 25c for 6 months?" w does Labor Challenge come t . . . how do you manage to ance a paper like that?

The boss dailies, the slicks and pulps and the policy organs Bay Street are subsidized by the Money. Eaton's, Hudson's Bay mpany, Canada Packers and the nk of Commerce, subsidize the ress" each time they insert an . And in return for the ads the itors prostitute themselves to se interests.

Our paper Labor Challenge is a licy organ as is Bay Street's nancial Post but it is a policy gan of a different class . . . the rkers and poor farmers of Can-a. Labor Challenge has to be bsidized too. And there are no nkers or business men who will the job. It has to be subsidized those in whose interests it hts. . . the workers.

All last year it was subsidized by donations from workers' pockets. For the past year we maintained an office, paid all the expenses that this entails, and paid the printer, almost doubled our circulation and gave a message of struggle and hope to thousands of workers in distributions on picket lines, rallies and public meetings. This was all possible because some of you who knew that it must be done came to our aid. Factory workers, housewives, farmers and students gave dimes and dollars. Every donation was a sacrifice, it meant wearing an old pair of shoes a little longer, giving up a couple of shows, going without a few little treats that you had your heart set on and that make life bearable.

Yes! every donation was a sacrifice, but it was a sacrifice to the greatest cause in the world. It was an investment in the future of mankind. It was a vote of confidence in the belief that we do have a future, that mankind will not be snuffed out by the atomic cataclysm that is being prepared by the war profiteers.

All the money that was donated to carry on this task last year has been used up. We need more money to carry on in the coming year, to keep up the good fight. To be exact, we need $1,750.00. We have to have this sum or our voice, your voice, is going to be muted. We are not going to be able to speak so often and to as many as we have been. **Give us a full roaring voice that can be heard by all the workers of Canada. A voice which can be heard in every mill, shop, and house.**

The decision rests in your hands. This is no cap in hand appeal. Labor Challenge is your paper. Doesn't it express your innermost feelings, your desires and aspirations? Then give to Labor Challenge and give generously. Give whatever you can. Don't put off sending that bill, money order or postal note till tomorrow. Send it now to 87 King Street West, Room 5, Toronto 1, Ont.

SCORE BOARD

	GOAL	IN
oronto	$875	544.50
ontreal	350	65.00
ancouver	300	185.00
.C.	75	16.00
indsor	75	130.00
lberta	50	10.00
ask.	25	9.00
	1,750	959.50

Three weeks to go, 54.8 per ent of the objective turned in.

Workers' Forum

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of Labor Challenge. Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them as short as possible and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

CARPENTERS WON BY SLIDING SCALE

Editor:

I hope this will help at least a little bit towards bringing about a new socialist society. You will find $10, for which renew my sub to Labor Challenge and the rest is my contribution to the paper.

By the way, I am sending you a clipping out of the local paper on the packing strike, the second strike here this summer. The carpenters were all out this spring. I am a member of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners. We were out eight days. We won the 40-hour week and 18 cents raise per hour.

We had an escalator clause in our agreement last year, by which we got a six-cent raise three months before our agreement ended. But they dropped it in the new agreement. I can't get to the bottom of it but it seems to me that it was the work of the Stalinists in company with some other scabs.

But after everything is said and done, Saskatoon is just beginning to wake up, after 50 years of slumber, that is since about the year of its birth.

PHIL HIEBERT,
SASKATOON, SASK.

▼

CONDITIONS LIKE '30s IN NOVA SCOTIA TOWN

Editor:

I am sorry I did not inform you of my sudden change of address. At present I am working in this small Nova Scotia town. This is

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE #49 - Mid-November 1947

Dollar Shortage Acute:

World Crisis Faces Canada

By ROSS DOWSON

Canada came out of World War with a productive capacity sec- d only to that of the United ates. Unscathed by the war, mp with profits and inspired th the great power of the in- strial enterprises that the gov- nment "sacrificed" to them, the pitalists fondly dreamed that this s to be "The Canadian Century." ey toasted "Canada Unlimited" their banquets and dinners.

Trade Minister MacKinnon, in ne high. The national income is uble that of 1938. Both Bay and James Street are raking in ofits that they never dreamed before. But all is not well in e stock exchanges, the financial uses and the business men's ibs.

Trade Minister MacKinnon, in e tow of leading industrialists, s been on a frantic tour of eleven untries, trying to swing trade als. Canadian representatives ve been rushing to various parts the globe to attend trade con- ences. Delegations and commit- s have been scurrying along the ll-beaten path from Ottawa to shington for hush-hush confer- ences. King has called an emerg- ency session of the House.

All this flurry has nothing to do with the alarming inflationary spiral that is undermining the people's living standards or the ever increasing war danger. No! The capitalists, their financial advisers, and their government lackeys, are frantic over recent developments in Canadian trade that threaten to usher in ahead of time the coming devastating depression.

Canada's trade unbalance which is causing such anxiety is a result of the dislocation of the world market. Europe and Asia, upon whose destruction and misery the Yankee and Canadian profiteers grew fat, are not reviving but are sinking more and more into a morass.

Wall Street observers candidly admit that "the food situation in Europe is desperate and far worse than last year" . . . "many European countries including France and Italy are hanging on the ropes."

The victorious allies have consciously stymied the economic revival of Germany. But even France and Denmark, whose economies have undergone a slight and limited revival, are making little headway. As they struggle to move into the export field they are meeting terrific sales resistance on price grounds, and are being compelled to devaluate their currencies.

NO MORE PRIMING

Canadian government officials have already intimated that they will no longer prime the trade pump with loans or credits, which up until now have lent a certain stability to Canada's export trade. In dire want of all the goods that the U.S. and Canada can produce, the rest of the world is unable to buy them. This results in what is known in "hard cash" circles as a dollar crisis.

Canada's middle position between the bankrupt European economies (the so-called soft currency areas), and the almighty American dollar is far from providing her with the favored position that it was supposed to. On the contrary it has completely dislocated her trade structure.

Canada's export trade has been taking a precipitous tumble. England, Australia, and the handful of other areas that have even a semblance of solvency, have been cutting down on their imports, above all those from the dollar areas (U.S. and Canada).

At the same time Canadian imports from the U.S. have been sky-

(Continued on Page 14)

11—15-1

Canada Confronted By Dollar Shortage As Crisis Looms

(Continued from Page 1)

rocketing to unprecedented height It is estimated that Canada's trad deficit with the U.S. will rise more than $900 million by th year-end. On top of this U.S. I vestments in Canada, which hav risen to $2.3 billion, are drainin off another $200 million in profit interest, etc. To cover these a verse balances the government compelled to cut its dollar poc to the bed-rock.

The home market—which boome following the war-imposed shor ages—is now gradually being take up. Goods are piling up, credi buying is on the increase, busines failures are rising. The world ma ket is contracting. All these spe depression. On top of this come the dollar shortage.

WORTHLESS CURE-ALLS

Financial circles are abuzz wit solutions and cure-alls--a loan fro Washington, sharp restrictions o U.S. imports, increased gold pro duction, devaluate the Canadia dollar.

Not one, or all of them com bined, will solve the problem. I fact they will only create ne problems.

Bay Street's Financial Post, de spairing of finding a solution, ad vocates a "get tough with Washin ton" policy. "Too long we hav negotiated there in a tone of timi pleading. We have failed to edu cate America as to the facts o our economic inter-relationship, th indivisibility of our national wel fare."

Finance Minister Abbott add his warning: "The present Ca adian dollar problem is as much danger to the stability of the U economy as it is to ours."

The financial editor of the Glob and Mail, organ of the mining in terests, cuttingly remarks that "i is to the American interest to hav us strong industrially and com mercially because that helps u defend the common Arctic frontie better."

Bay Street, like the bankrupt on the Bourse, is hooking its wag on to the Marshall Plan. Deter mined and conscious of its im perialist interests, Wall Street ha already come through with $10 million in the UNRRA operation Marshall has already promised Ca adian industrialists some of th gravy.

After pointing out the supposed dangers of scarcity and price in flation in the U.S. if European re quirements were filled entirel from American production, h stated, "It seems clearly in ou interests that the greatest po sible amount of these supplie should be obtained from othe countries."

But how much of the $22 billio Marshall bonanza will the profi hungry U.S. industrialists leave fo their Canadian junior partners? They too are looking to the Mar shall plan to solve some of thei own increasing problems. At best whatever the Canadian capitalist receive will only stave off for a short period the day of reckoning.

LABOR CHALLENGE (49) Mid-Nov. 1947

11-15-2

In Memory of Our Fighting Leader

Jack MacDonald

By LOUISE JORDAN

On November 7, 1941, Canadian labor and the revolutionary movement lost one of their stauchest fighters with the death of Jack MacDonald.

"Mac," as he was known to his comrades, was one of the founders of the Communist Party of Canada and its first National Secretary. In 1931 he was expelled by the Stalinist party because he could not stomach their false policies. A year later he joined the Trotskyist movement where he was a leading figure until his untimely death at the age of 51.

Mac's whole life was spent in the struggle for revolutionary socialism. He was by nature an internationalist and the struggle of workers anywhere in the world drew his sympathy and support. Even as a young lad, working in his native Scotland, his imagination was fired by the revoluntionary events of 1905 in Russia and he and his fellow workers did what they could to send aid to their Russian brothers.

Mac was born Feb. 2, 1888 in Falkirk Scotland, one of 13 children. His father was a pattern maker and Mac went to work at the same trade at the age of 14. He had been a brilliant student, a gold medallist, and he won a scholarship entitling him to four years free schooling. But economic necessity forced him out of high school after he had completed two years.

PLUNGED INTO ACTIVITY

Mac immediately plunged into trade union and political activity. He was a member of the Falkirk Pattern Makers Association and

AT 5th CONGRESS OF THE C.I.

its president from 1910 to 1912. He was a member of the British Socialist Party until 1912 and an executive member of the Scottish district Social Democratic Federation. In 1912 he left Scotland and came to Toronto, after a year in New York

In Canada, Mac continued his trade union and political activity, finding time, however, to get married in 1915.

Then came the stirring days of 1917 and the great Rusian Revolution that electrified and inspired the labor movement of the entire world. Mac's work thereafter — his anti-conscription speeches in 1918, his running as a labor candidate in the Ontario elections of 1919, his leading role as vice-president of the Toronto Metal Trades Council during the great upsurge of 1919—all had the goal of establishing a Canadian Communist Party and a workers' government on the model of Lenin and Trotsky.

The movement in which Mac participated so whole-heartedly bore fruit with the formation of the Workers' Party and finally the ommunist Party in 1922. He was its first National Secretary until 1928.

In 1923 he was a delegate to the Congress of the Communist International. During this same year he ran as a labor candidate in Ontario. For speeches and organizing work in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, in aid of the Dosco mine strikers, he was arrested and tried for sedition but acquitted by the jury.

In the summer of 1929, during the struggle for free speech by the Communists whose open air meetings were under police ban, Mac again hit the front pages.. He spoke in Queen's Park, Toronto at a meeting during which heads were smashed, Mac's among them, by police clubs.

In the years after the death of Lenin and the exile of Trotsky, the Stalinist bureaucracy filled the international communist movement with factional disputes and intrigues, and a wild zig-zagging of policy. These had their reflections in the Canadian party.

Maurice Spector, then the leading theoretician of the Canadian Communist Party, brought back to Canada in 1928, from Russia, a copy of Trotsky's criticism of the program of the Comintern. Spector was promptly expelled for defending Trotsky's position. Mac, who was also impressed by Trotsky's work, continued to fight within the Stalinist party for a correct program until he too was expelled in 1931.

Mac spent a year studying the basic documents of the Stalin-Trotsky dispute and was fully convinced that Trotskyism embodied the heritage of the October Revolution of Leninism. He then joined with Spector and the small group of Left Oppositionists. They worked to build the Workers' Party of Canada and its paper, **The Vanguard**, forerunners of the Revolutionary Workers Party and **Labor Challenge**.

NATIONAL SECRETARY

As National Secretary of the Workers Party and co-editor of the paper, Mac's later years were spent in speaking, writing and organizing for the Trotskyists movement. The bitter years of factional struggle had taken their toll, however. During the last two years of his life, Mac was forced to limit his activity severely, due to poor health.

In spite of his physical illness, his heart and interest still lay with politics and he continued to advise and train the cadres who today form the leadership of the Revolutionary Workers Party. Death from a heart attack took him as he was recovering from an operation and planning renewed political activity.

Those who were privileged to have known Mac and seen him in action, vividly remember his broad, well built form, his neat dress and the twinkling eyes under beetling black brows. A powerful speaker, he was at his best on the platform or in the chair of a conference, guiding and synthesizing divergent points of view. Speaking of chairs, Mac's first speech on a Trotskyist platform was given clutching a chair to fend of the Stalinist goon squads who tried to break up the meeting by violence.

Mac was a plain, blunt speaker who spoke the language of the Canadian workers and could put over complicated or abstract ideas in everyday language. He was known also for his ready wit in handling hecklers.

Once, at an open air meeting on a cold day, he wore a new hat purchased for him by his wife, a heckler shouted: "What do you know about the workers when you're wearing a $10 hat?" Mac's reply was characteristic. "Sure I'm wearing a good hat, but that's what I'm fighting for—a good hat for you and for every worker!"

Not a particularly patient man, he had endless patience in politics and would spend hours explaining his point of view to a worker. If someone objected that that particular worker was worthless and Mac was wasting his time, he would reply, "Well, he might carry my ideas to someone else who would be worth while."

On November 7, each year, workers observe the anniversary of the great Russian Revolution. It is fitting that on the same day the workers of Canada should pause to honor the memory of Jack MacDonald, for the Russian Revolution and all it stood for was the guiding star of his life. The workers can best pay tribute to Jack by carrying on to a successful conclusion the struggle for a workers' Canada under the leadership of the party he did so much to create.

New Forces For 4th International

The Revolutionary Communists of Denmark held their second national convention early this October. They decided to continue publication of their bimonthly paper "Det Ny Arbejderblad" and increase its circulation. Unanimously they declared their adherence to the program and principles of the Fourth International, World Party of the Socialist Revolution and have applied for affiliation and recognition as its Danish section.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party — Canadian Section, Fourth International

Vol. III, No. 21 (50) | TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1947 | PRICE: 5 Cents

Role of the CCF In Parliament

See page 3

AUSTERITY PROGRAM HITS WORKERS

RWP Enters Toronto Elections

Names Ross Dowson for Mayor and Harry Clairmont for Controller

TORONTO, Nov. 22.—Today the Toronto Branch of the Revolutionary Workers Party announced its decision to challenge the candidates of the Bay Street monopolists in the civic elections on January 1. The RWP has chosen Ross Dowson, its National Secretary, as candidate for Mayor and Harry Clairmont, well known militant in the needle trades unions, as candidate for the Board of Control.

DOWSON

Extensive preparations are being made to launch an intensive campaign against the corrupt Tory political machine that has dominated Toronto municipal politics for decades. Thousands of copies of the Revolutionary Workers Party civic election program will be distributed along with special Toronto editions of **Labor Challenge.**

The RWP is contesting both the Mayoralty and the Board of Control in view of the failure of the organized labor movement to challenge the grip of the boss party political machines on City Hall. The RWP is seeking the endorsation of its candidates by the labor movement.

CHALLENGES TORY

Dowson is the sole challenger of the incumbent Tory Mayor Saunders for the support of the working people of Toronto.

Clairmont is fighting to win for labor one of the four seats in the Board of Control. He will be running parallel to ex-Controller Stewart Smith, leading figure in the Stalinist Labor Progressive Party.

Ross Dowson, RWP candidate for Mayor, has spent 13 years in the labor movement. National Secretary of the RWP and frequent contributor to the pages of **Labor Challenge,** he is a steel worker by trade. Active in the unemployed youth movement in the thirties, he is a former member of the United SteelworkersAcme Screw and Gear Local, and a veteran of World War II.

Harry Clairmont, RWP candidate for controller, has been a member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union since 1924. At present he is recording secretary of Local 14, the biggest local in Toronto and has been at various times recording secretary for the Toronto ILGW Joint Board, delegate to the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council, shop steward and local executive member.

In a statement to the press, both candidates stressed that the most important task confronting the working people of Toronto is to break from the boss party machines who exercise a monopoly in civic

→ to page 2

12-01-1a

ANOTHER TURN OF THE SCREW

Great Mass Upsurge Rocks Italian Govt.

A great wave of militant strikes and demonstrations is sweeping Italy. In the past three weeks, strikes involving more than two million workers and land seizures by peasants, have threatened to topple the shaky regime of de Gasperi. For 24 hours a soviet existed in Bitonto, in the province of Apulia. Although

Profiteers Raise Prices As Ottawa Puts Burden on Masses in Dollar Crisis

New and intolerable hardships for the Canadian people were decreed by Ottawa on Nov. 17. The government's dictatorial order-in-council, issued nearly three weeks before the opening of Parliament, sets up a devastating "austerity program." It aims to conserve American dollars at the cost of health and welfare of the workers, the farmers, and the middle class. It lavishly aids the powerful monopolies, the gold mine owners, and the profiteers of all stripes.

Heading the list of commodities which can no longer be imported from the U.S., are vital foods—all fresh fruits except citrus fruits, dried apricots, pears and peaches, fresh vegetables, breakfast foods condensed milk, seafoods, cocoa products, and all kinds of confectionery.

Essential manufactured goods including all kinds of electrical appliances, refrigerators, stoves, heaters, and a long list of other products, were deliberately shoved out of the reach of the masses, by a 25 per cent tax. As Finance Minister Abbott explained, this tax was not needed for revenue, but added solely to curtail purchases by the average family.

"For most of us," Abbott explained hypocritically, "this moderate measure of austerity will mean inconvenience and for some it will create difficulty. But a problem of this magnitude cannot be solved painlessly."

There were some people, however, who seemed to have no difficulty and to feel no pain. The food profiteers, in possession of this year's crop bought weeks ago, jacked up the price of potatoes, onions, and carrots, from 10 to 75 per cent. Such "luxuries" as tomatoes and lettuce, soared out of the reach of the working class. The average family's diet has already begun the monotonous pattern it will follow at least until Canadian-grown vegetables come back to the market in June.

Informed that the government was reducing the import duty on tea, coffee, tobacco, and a few other items, wholesalers promptly anthe oppressive burden of "austerity." But the program's over-all "success" is most dubious. The most merciless slashing of the workers' living standards can save only a fraction of the $300 millions in U.S. dollars which Abbott aims at.

One aspect of the program includes "encouraging" Canadian industry to "find markets" for their goods in the United States — in competition with the more powerful, more productive American industry. Another project is to "persuade" Canadian branch plants of American firms, to export their products to the U.S. in competition with their own parent companies.

So far no American-owned firms have rushed into print with acceptance of this unique idea; their help, if any, will be meager. American investments in Canada are designed to compete with, not to underwrite, the Canadian capitalist class. Nor are Canadian manufacturers very optimistic over their prospects in the U.S. market. Inflationary price rises in the past year have driven Canadian prices close to the American heights; the currency discount wipes out the remaining gap.

TROUBLE AHEAD

Some Big Business spokesmen are pessimistic. Thomas Oakley, president of the Canadian Importers and Traders Association, stated "the government decision would cut imports by one billion dollars, roughly 50 per cent of the current volume, and would set the stage for an economic depression." (**Globe & Mail,** Nov. 22).

The **Financial Post,** looking on the bright side, predicted that Canadian capitalism "faces an opportunity for Canada and the United

"WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!"

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CLAIRMONT

politics and who attempt to maintain this monopoly by the pretense that municipal elections are "non-partisan."

"But the Tory machine that dominates City Hall," they declared, "is the very base of the viciously anti-working class Drew government and a bastion in the capitalist political domination over labor on a dominion wide scale.

"What do the capitalist parties offer the working people of Toronto? Thousands of workers' and veterans' families continue to suffer the hardship and squalor of improper housing while theatres, cocktail bars and bank buildings continue to mushroom up and use essential building supplies.

"Oppressive taxation and inflationary price rises continue to slash the living standards of the people. The latest below-the-belt

(Continued from Page 1)

(on)

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Toronto RWP Runs Candidates for Mayor, Controller

(Continued from Page 1)

blow is another 2-cent rise in the price of milk.

"Not only are these political stooges of Big Business guilty of failing to come to grips with any one of the real problems confronting the working people, but in the past year they have demonstrated that they are consciously, that they are openly and unashamedly, enemies of the labor movement.

"Witness their callous dealing with the residents of the University Avenue Trailer Camp and the unfortunate people thrust into the Stanley Barracks rat-run; their stall on the 40 hour week for civic employees; their refusal to support the lifeguards' demand for decent pay, and their support of the "yellow dog" contract that the guards were forced to sign; their attempt to ban a labor paper from Toronto streets; and Mayor Saunders' unabashed attempt to lead a back to work movement during the Packinghouse Workers strike."

ADD TORONTO ELECTIONS

Last year the RWP carried the banner of independent labor political action in the contest for the highest seat in municipal politics. Its candidate for Mayor, Mufray Dowson, rolled up 3,201 votes or 3 per cent of the total poll. Despite the complete blackout by the capitalist press his campaign won substantial support from those workers who stand by the principle of independent political action by labor and for a militant program of anti-capitalist struggle.

Workers who want to cast their vote for independent working class political representation, against capitalist war and depression will vote Dowson Mayor and Clairmont Controller.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
LABOR CHALLENGE (50) December 1947

12-01-2

Campaign Fund Hits $1561 As Drive Draws to Close

The financial campaign to put a $1,750 base under Labor Challenge has come to a close. As we were closing the books, a small flurry of contributions came in to raise the final total to $1,561.03.

Many friends and supporters who so loyally and substantially came to our aid will be disappointed that we did not actually reach our goal. But everyone made a colossal effort and we raised almost 90 per cent of the objective. The total was the highest amount yet raised in any Labor Challenge campaign.

As we close the campaign, the standing is as follows:

Toronto	$891.03
Ontario	150.00
Vancouver	271.00
B.C.	53.00
Montreal	147.00
Prairies	49.00

Montreal has asked that the campaign be extended. Vancouver, Prince Rupert and other points have guaranteed further contributions. But the campaign committee has decided to close the drive on schedule and turn over further funds sent in to the regular Labor Challenge Sustaining Fund.

Toronto comrades have asked us to announce that Sonny Privat Bob Myers and George Stanton won first, second and third prize respectively and E. Lane, L. McCart, G. Gait, A. Rosenbaum and A. Brunton won consolation prizes in their fund campaign.

Both Windsor and Toronto topped their quotas. The Toronto comrades set a high objective and overscored it. But they were more than outdone by Windsor, which almost doubled its quota. In the last week Britannia Beach reached its objective through the splendid work of Bill White and our close friends there. Milnes Landing also came through with flying colors.

The Vancouver comrades did an extremely fine job. Even on the basis of present returns, they have forwarded almost twice as much as they had ever raised before.

This campaign represents a considerable achievement. Many, many more friends and sympathizers contributed towards this drive than any previous drive, signifying the growing influence of our press. The vicious capitalist price squeeze resulted in smaller individual contributions, but these same conditions, flowing from the crisis of world capitalism, are paving the way for wider and wider support for the message of Labor Challenge and the socialist victory of the Canadian workers.

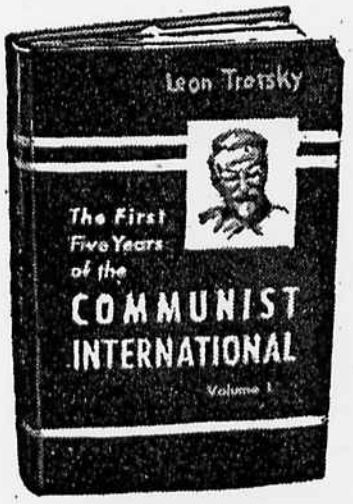
Help Wanted

Campaign for Dowson and Clairmont! Labor needs its own men in the Toronto city government. We need your aid, to put thousands of copies of our program into the hands of your neighbors and fellow workers.

If you can spare even a single afternoon or evening, it will help. If you can spare several we can do much more between now and January 1, when the workers of Toronto go to the polls.

Call up or drop in at any time at the RWP Toronto Election Headquarters,
87 King St. West, Room 5
Elgin 9613

BUILD A MARXIST LIBRARY



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Order from—
LABOR CHALLENGE
87 King St. W., Room 5
Toronto 1, Ont.

Boosting the 'Challenge'

During the past month Labor Challenge boosters have been sending a steady stream of renewals and new subs even though the financial drive has had top priority. A reader in Dawson City, away up in the Yukon, sent in a warm note which enclosed a two dollar bill for a two year renewal. A new reader in Toronto also sent in $2 for two one-year subs to be sent to his address.

Toronto leads the sub score with 7 one-year subs, 4 six-month subs and 7 one-year renewals. Joe Rose reports that the branch sold 31 copies of Labor Challenge at the last of the season's street corner meetings. "We would have done better but the cold snap kept many workers off the street."

He also tells us that the branch did two distributions, one at a meeting of the Swift local of the UPWA and another at a Stalinist meeting where Tim Buck was speaking.

"At the Tim Buck meeting a couple of party functionaries came out screaming that it was a Trotskyist paper we were handing out. They hoped to frighten workers going into the meeting from accepting the paper, but they met with little success. As a matter of fact a fellow who had just come from Nova Scotia stopped to chat with us.

"He was surprised to hear that there was a Trotskyist party in Canada. He told us that he had applied for membership in the LPP and that his application had been rejected. They charged him with being a Trotskyist. He said that he would like to know what it was all about, he was pretty fed up with the LPP as it was not militant enough and he would come down to our next forum."

VANCOUVER forwarded 1 one-year sub and 2 six-month subs.

SASKATOON, MAGNA BAY and QUEBEC all sent in 2 one-year renewals. Magna Bay also forwarded a 3-month sub for a logger who was not going to be in town for long and did not know where he was going from there.

Both BUFFALO, N.Y., and MILNES LANDING sent in a one-year renewal. WISETON forwarded a one-year sub and PRINCE RUPERT a six-month renewal.

The winter weather must be giving more of us an opportunity to curl up on the chesterfield and read. Several book orders have come in. They remind us to suggest that you write in to the Labor Challenge Book Service, 87 King St. West, Room 5, Toronto, for our catalog of Marxist literature.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

LABOR CHALLENGE

Official Organ, Revolutionary Workers Party — Canadian Section, Fourth International

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4th International Manifesto on Germany

See page 3

LC-1947-12-15-1a

FASCIST THREAT RISES IN FRANCE

RWP on Toronto Ballot for Mayor, Controller

Trotskyist Candidates' City Election Platform

Introduction

On January 1 the working people of Toronto will go to the polls to decide who shall govern the second largest city in Canada. This year's election takes place as an economic debacle threatens to engulf the country. Taxation is becoming increasingly oppressive. Prices continue to mount and slash the living standards of the people. Countless workers and veterans and their families suffer untold hardships from the terrible housing shortage.

ROSS DOWSON

At the same time as the vast majority of citizens are confronted with these conditions, Big Business is raking in the greatest profits in peacetime history. Permits continue to be issued for non-essential and luxury building while there is no low rent subsidized housing.

Haunting the future of wage and salary workers, small homeowners, professional and small businessmen, is the specter of the coming depression. Ever present is the danger of the third imperialist world war and the atomic destruction of mankind.

These are the issues confronting the workers.

The reactionary majority of the City Council, political stooges of the Bay Street financiers, will protest that nothing can be done about any of these problems. In order to divert the attention of the workers, they will inject a dozen side issues such as the Spadina Ave. extension. They will red-bait. But the real issues remain: issues which the workers must and can resolve.

If there ever was any doubt about the completely reactionary character of the Tory machine which controls City Hall, there can be none now. The record of the past year clearly demonstrates that they are the conscious and pliant tool of the monopolists.

Last year they used the police

→ Dowson p. 2

THE MARSHALL PLAN

A Visit With Candidates Who Fight for Labor

By ROSE BURKE

12-15-1a

Stalinists Bar Road to A Workers Government

DEC. 9.—The fascist threat is mounting in France, as the treacherous policies of Stalinism spread demoralization and confusion in the ranks of the working class. Militant strikes four days ago involved some two million workers and ...try's production. Today, dis-

Elect Trotskyist To Ceylon Senate In Opening Session

Special to Labor Challenge

COLOMBO, Ceylon, Dec. 1 —D. W. T. Perera, member of the Bolshevik-Leninist Party, Indian section of the Fourth International, was elected to the Senate by the House of Representatives in Ceylon. At the very first session, Comrade Perera is sponsoring the demand for the abolition of the Second Chamber.

The opening of the Ceylon Parliament was marked by a colorful ceremony. Nothing was lacking in its preparations for aping the Parliament at Westminster. The Governor read a speech from the throne. The Commanders-in-Chief of the Army and Navy were present to add to the pageant. The judges in scarlet, and the Senators, marched in procession to the House.

Yet something went awry which the London Times did not fail to observe. "The ceremony," it says, "was boycotted by the six members of the Bolshevik Leninist Party, who held their meeting in another part of the building."

The entire BLP faction, which includes the new Senator, refused to be a party to the reactionary

...its strike-busting "anti-sabotage" law. It has called up 80,000 army reservists to serve as police; detailed 50,000 troops to serve as "guards" on the railways; organized strikebreaking on a national scale; raided the Stalinist press in Paris, Marseilles, Strasbourg, and Bordeaux; purged the police department of suspected strike sympathizers; and rushed an army appropriations budget of $173,140,000 through the Assembly, to prepare for further attacks on labor.

Among the first to be arrested were four Trotskyist militants: Jacqueline Hodon, Claude Kahn and Jacques Danos, members of the Parti Communiste Internationaliste, and a sympathizer, Francis Piller. They were seized for posting a party proclamation calling for the general strike.

In the face of this brutal offensive, the Stalinists limited themselves to a filibuster in the Assembly against the anti-labor legislation and to futile attempts to negotiate strike settlements with the Schuman regime. While the crucial need is to launch the general strike to establish a Workers and Farmers government, they continue to attempt to curb the militancy of the workers and restrict it to limited and episodic demonstrations which lead to no concrete gains, and therefore result only in demoralization and frustration.

Held back by its official leadership, the working class as a whole does not yet see clearly that the

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against the striking workers at Imperial Optical, Gutta Percha and Brown's Bread. This year Saunders used his office as Mayor to attempt to smash the Packinghouse Workers strike with a back-to-work movement. The Board of Control which administers and controls the Harbor Commission smashed the lifeguards' strike against a 56-hour week at $23.40.

Who controls City Hall—the workers through their own representatives, or the big banks, industrialists, real estate and mortgage companies through their stooges in both capitalist parties—is of vital concern to all citizens.

In order to give the working people an opportunity to cast their ballots for candidates that truly represent them instead of throwing their votes down the sewer of capitalist machine politics, the Revolutionary Workers Party is running two candidates.

Its candidate for mayor is Ross Dowson. This year we are extending our campaign by running Harry Clairmont as candidate for Board of Control. Both candidates are running on the program of the RWP, the only program that meets the needs of the people.

12-15-16

For Working Class Political Action

If the workers are to defend the great gains that they have made in the past decades of struggle, let alone improve their lot, they must enter into the political fight against their enemies. They must enter into this conflict with both feet . . . not stop at Federal or Provincial politics but go right down into the municipal field and root out of office every one of the Liberal and Conservative lackeys of Bay Street.

The Tory machine that dominates City Hall is the very base of the viciously anti-working-class Drew government and a bastion in the capitalist domination over labor on a Dominion-wide scale.

Labor must break with company unionism in politics. Labor must organize and act on the political front with the same energy and power that it has demonstrated on the industrial front. Think how easy it would be to bargain with the employers and to safeguard the interests of the veterans and pensioners, industrial and white collar workers when we have a 100 per cent labor council. A vote for Dowson and Clairmont, a vote for the RWP, is a blow struck for independent labor political action and a significant step in putting a labor council in power. For a workers and farmers' government!

HARRY CLAIRMONT

Consumers' Control of Prices

Fantastic price rises continue to mount one upon the other. The Bay Street profiteers attempt to place the blame on "the excessive demands" of the workers or the farmers. They do so in order to divert attention from the real source of the trouble, their own vicious smash and grab price gouging. Both Ottawa and City Hall have done nothing but provide an effective smoke screen to mask capitalists' attacks on the health and well being of the workers.

Against the idle lamentations of the boss candidates, we call for the immediate formation of "Committees on Prices," made up of delegates from the factories, trade unions, co-operatives, farmers' organizations, housewives and small shopowners. These committees will investigate thoroughly what is really behind the exorbitant prices. They will demand that the big chain stores, food trusts and monopolists open their books for their inspection. They will take over the control of the fixing of prices.

Of all price increases, the rise in the price of milk is the most vicious. We advocate that Council take over the distribution as a municipal enterprise. With waste and super profits eliminated, the price will soon drop to its former level. The ones to administer this job are the organized workers in the industry who will see to it that the jobs of the workers are protected by cutting down the hours of work with no less pay.

→ To RWP (Continued on Page 3)

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12-15-1c

RWP Issues Program For Toronto Workers

(Continued from Page 1 2)

For Subsidized Low-Rent Housing

Two and a half years after the war, which the capitalist politicians promised would usher in a new world of the "Four Freedoms," thousands of workers and veterans and their families desperately need any kind of shelter.

Millions of dollars have been spent for construction in Toronto, but the overwhelming bulk of it has gone into luxury and non-essential building, into banks, theaters and cocktail bars. The Toronto Council, which has eight members on the Board of Directors of the Canadian National Exhibition, criminally approved the throwing of millions of dollars of materials into that 14-day-long side-show and capitalist advertising extravaganza.

Housing experts estimate that the city requires 7,000 units per year for the next decade. The Regent Park project will not even scratch the surface.

The RWP candidates in office would fight against the issuance of building permits for anything but essential building. We would fight for the control of construction to be taken out of the hands of the servants of the real-estate sharks and mortgage companies who are vigorously opposed to any extensive slum clearance or erection of low rental dwellings. We will place it in the hands of the building trades workers.

We will bring pressure to bear on the dominion government to divert the millions of dollars it has appropriated for war preparations, to housing, hospitals, schools and nurseries.

Tax the Rich

While Bay Street has rolled up the most phenomenal profits in its history, its political servants in the Liberal and Conservative parties in City Hall have continued to pile the main burden of taxation on the working people.

The capitalist politicians seek office in order to perpetuate and extend this condition, to defend and add their little mite to the profit hoard of the rich. They have permitted the railway monopolists to go free of $293,000 in business tax each year. The big real-estate interests, mortgage companies and land sharks ride light while the tax burden is thrust onto the small home owner. The Chairman of the Board of Assessors has confessed that among thousands of others, one downtown property is under-assessed by $872,795. The RWP advocates a sharply graduated scale of property taxation to place the chief burden of taxation on the homes of the wealthy and on their business establishments.

Democratic Franchise

Tens of thousands of residents of Toronto are disfranchised by reactionary property qualifications. Thousands of those who have the franchise are prohibited from voting on money by-laws.

We demand that all property qualifications that limit the full and democratic expression of the will of the working people of Toronto be removed. We demand the right to vote for all over 18 years of age in municipal as well as in Dominion and Provincial elections.

Labor Stronghold

The sliding scale of wages which provides automatic wage increases with each increase in the cost of living remains the most effective method yet devised to defend the workers' living standards. RWP candidates in office would openly foster this demand and set the example by fighting for it on behalf of the civic employees, student vets and pensioners.

RWP officials would utilize the power entrusted to them, to combat and break up the boss-police court combination. We would fight against all curtailment of the right to mass picket, the use of police against picket-lines and scab-herding. Our candidates recognize not only collective bargaining but the right to strike.

For Socialism

Twice in a single generation, whole continents have been laid waste in agonizing wars. Already the war-makers prepare for the third mad holocaust. Capitalism can give mankind only more terrible slaughters, broken briefly by slow decay, by inflation, depressions, unemployment, hunger and misery.

Only by taking industry out of the hands of the profiteers and reorganizing it rationally according to the needs of the people, can peace and progress be made possible. Capitalism must be replaced by the power of the working class, by the establishment of a Workers' and Farmers Government.

You, the workers of Toronto, can play a leading part in the mighty struggle. By setting out on the road of independent political action, you can inspire and encourage workers throughout the country to follow your example. You can bring closer the socialist society of peace, plenty and prosperity by casting your vote for the candidates of the Revolutionary Workers Party, and the program on which they stand.

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12-15-2

4th International Hits Dismantling German Plants

MANIFESTO OF 4th INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

The dismantling of 682 industrial plants in the Western Zones of Germany announced by the American and British Military Government last month, has actually begun. Despite the united protests of the German workers organizations and in spite of widespread public criticism in the Allied countries, the program of stripping vital industry for so-called war damage reparations is proceeding. Thus, the German people, who were the first victims of Hitler's fascism, are to be further "punished."

At a time when it is evident that the present breakdown of European economy cannot be repaired without restoring the productive potential of its industrial heart in Germany, the ruling powers are taking further steps. The dismantling by General Clay means not only further disorganization of German production, it means continued disruption of any real effort for the European recovery, and thus intensified misery for the millions of workers, not only of Germany but of the entire European continent. All the volumes of verbiage about the benevolence of the Marshall Plan cannot conceal this dastardly crime.

The dismantled plants are supposed to serve as reparations to the countries damaged by Nazi destruction in the war. In reality, most of these countries will not be able to make effective use of the dismantled industrial equipment even when they get it, due to their lack of the necessary machine tools and the necessary technical skills. This has already proven to be the case with plants shipped from Eastern Germany to the USSR by the pillaging Stalinist regime.

OUTRIGHT DESTRUCTION

The real result of the dismantlement can be only to destroy potential competition to capitalist production in America and in Great Britain. That is downright destruction of industrial wealth that could be used by the German workers for the reconstruction of their own country as well as of Europe as a whole.

In order to forestall any possible resistance on the part of the German workers to this criminal destruction of industrial wealth, the occupying powers are withholding for several months the most important elements in the food ration of the people—butter and fats. This at a time when the Chamber of German Physicians, licensed by the Allies, has just issued an appeal "to the conscience of the world not to tolerate any longer the alarming decline of the German people's health" which, the scientists stress, constitutes a grave danger "to the security of the rest of the world." To the crime of abject industrial destruction, American and British conquerors of Germany are adding that of planned starvation of the people.

The USSR, controlled by the Stalinist bureaucracy, is supposed to get 25 per cent of the dismantled plants. The "new democracies" allied with it, much of the rest.

Everywhere the Communist Parties controlled by Stalin as well as the reformist Social Democracies tied to the Western Allies, try to excel each other in the continued campaign of chauvinism directed against the German people.

AROUSE CONSCIENCE

The conscience of the toiling people of the world must be aroused against these crimes over the heads of the treacherous "workers" parties. The Fourth International, the Trotskyist parties the world over, call upon the workers in the United States, in Great Britain, in France, everywhere to raise their voices of solidarity with the German workers. Demand of your government that they cease at once the criminal dismantling of industrial plants in Germany! Restore the withdrawn rations to already starved German people!

The prosperity and well-being of the laboring population of the world cannot be advanced one whit by the destruction of industrial potential in Germany and the throwing out of work of hundreds of thousands of its workers. On the contrary, that can profit only the capitalist and imperialist masters everywhere. It can only add to the economic chaos which is reigning on the continent of Europe and which tends to drag the whole world into its wake.

Hands off the German plants!

Let the German workers run industry under the control of their own trade unions!

Withdraw all troops of occupation!

Let the German workers establish the Socialist Germany they want!

Only a Socialist Germany within a Socialist United States of Europe can restore the economy of the European continent for the benefit of its laboring population!

Only the Socialist reconstruction of Europe can prevent a new and devastating war and lead to world peace and prosperity!

Stop the criminal policy of dismantling!

Stop the starvation of the German people!